

BIB 221 Poetry and Wisdom

Lesson 12 Song of Solomon

Intro. There are several different approaches to interpretation for this book.

1. Historical/literal that the book is describing the relationship of love between man and woman.
2. The historical and typical method claims that the book has a historical basis or true story events and that the type is Christ and His people showing their mutual affection for one another.
3. The allegorical method claims that it is an allegory of Christ's love for His people and their relation to Him. The difference is that it doesn't claim to be historical or a true story.

Though most authors differ, I would hold to the second method. I believe that this probably did happen and caused Solomon to write it but that it also was intended to convey the relationship of Christ and His Bride.

“The permanent values of the Song are two. It is first a revelation of the true nature of human love. It is secondly, an unveiling of the highest religious experience.” Morgan

Again the transitions are marked out by the same phrase in 2:7 3:5 8:4

The characters: Solomon picturing Christ. The Shulammitte picturing the Christian. The Daughters of Jerusalem picturing the assembled church.

Prologue: (1:2-1:6) Her expression of her desire for His love.

1. Part I (1:7-2:7) The bride and groom are united. The picture of the soul that meets Christ and the intimate fellowship they enjoy together.
 2. They go back and forth consummating their love
 3. Transition: 2:7 which there is a break and the next verse is a new scene
2. Part II (2:8-3:5) She hears his voice to break the silence
 3. 2:8-14 she tells of his serenade
 4. 2:15-17 He is distracted by the little foxes getting into the vineyard. Picturing the small sins that break our walk with Christ
 5. 3:1-4 she searches until she finds him and again they go back to her house
 6. 3:5 Transition end of scene and he is gone
3. Part III 3:6-8:4
 4. Description of the groom 3:6-3:11
 5. He woos her 4:1-15
 6. She gives him an invitation 4:16
 7. He accepts the invitation 5:1
 8. She does not open to him immediately 5:2-5 Showing our distraction

9. He is offended and withdraws himself 5:6
 10. She opens and he is not there, she calls and no answer and goes searching for him asking the daughters of Jerusalem and the watchmen 5:6-8
 11. They ask her of His value 5:9
 12. Her reply 5:10-16
 13. They ask her where He went 6:1
 14. Her reply 6:2-3
 15. He comes on the scene again and speaks of His love and asks her to return to Him. 6:4-13
 16. He describes her beauty 7:1-9
 17. She is overwhelmed and amazed at His love for her and invites Him again to her field. 7:10-8:4
 18. Transition: 8:4 They appear together returning from the field
4. Part IV 8:5-14
5. 8:5a The Daughters ask who she is
 6. He mentions His love for her before she knew Him 8:5b
 7. She speaks of love and jealousy 8:6-7
 8. She is viewed as a little sister that is maturing 8:8-10

Epilogue she vows to do her part

Conclusion

Enjoy the worship and fellowship with God. Beware of lingering when he approaches. If you break fellowship, draw nigh to God and He will draw nigh to you. Ask, seek, knock.