

Study Guide for February 25th, 2007. The Song of Songs: Selected Passages

Introduction: What is one of your favorite ‘love songs’? Why do you like it?

The sermon on Feb. 25th will seek to present the Song of Songs – also known as Song of Solomon. In my experience, it is one of the most neglected books of the Bible. Yet I feel there are important truths that we need today to live so as to honor God. This has been a portion of Scripture where interpretations have varied dramatically. So consider this an introduction with the expectation that your understanding will increase over time.

I. Read through the book (it is only 117 verses) in at least three different translations.

A. What seems to be the major theme of the book?

B. How is this message differ from the one portrayed in our current media?

II. God created our sexuality:

A. What is God’s evaluation of all that He made? (Gen. 1:31)

B. Read Gen. 2:18-25 and then answer the following . . .

1) What in creation is “not good”?

2) How do you think Adam and Eve viewed their sexuality?

C. Why is it important to begin our thinking about sexuality with creation?

III. But we live in a fallen world where sexuality is twisted.

A. Briefly summarize the warning and / or command in each passage.

1) Rom. 1:24-25:

2) I Cor. 6:18-20:

3) Eph. 4:17-19:

4) I Thess. 4:3-8:

B. Write out Heb. 13:4. How have you observed God’s judgment on the adulterer and all the sexually immoral?

C. What is necessary for people to be pure sexually? (see I Tim. 4:4-5)

IV. The Song of Songs is a gift from God to give us a picture of marital love.

A. Read S of S 1:2-4a. Describe the woman’s desire for her husband.

B. Read S of S 1:9-11. How does the husband praise his wife?

C. Make a list of the times the image of a **garden** is used. Why do you think this image is employed as frequently as it is?

D. Read S of S 8:5b-7: How should we value God-given marital love? Why?