

SONG OF SONGS

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The Transcendent Beauty of Jesus

(5:10-16)

by Rick Combs

“Yes, He is altogether Lovely!”

She answers; “my Beloved is dazzling, He is outstanding, He is totally balanced. His leadership is like finest gold. His dedication is eternally vigorous. His knowledge is perfect with no deformity. His emotions are like banks of scented herbs. His word has the sweetness of lilies and yet it woos me out of a life of self-absorbed carnality. His actions are golden. His tender yearnings are like carved ivory, rare and expensive. The way He operates His eternal plan and the way He fulfills His Divine purpose are durable and stable and beautiful like pillars of marble. His countenance is so important because it releases the impartation of God. Above everything, there is nothing sweeter than His mouth in intimacy with Him. This is my Beloved; He is my husband, my lover, and He is my good friend. This is why I want Him. This is why I’m lovesick and I’m not taking anything less than Him as a substitute. No substitute will answer the cry of my spirit.”

“My beloved is white and ruddy, chief among ten thousand” (5:10)

Jesus is stunning and dazzling, being brilliant in His loveliness, or radiant in His splendor, abounding with unapproachable light that dwells around His Throne. He is the only perfectly whole person who ever walked the earth. He has perfect balance in every attribute. He is the only One in heaven or on earth that has at the same time the fullness of humanity and the fullness of Deity. He stands completely unique. He is in His own category.

He is incomparably superior to all people. He is so excellent He could be instantly distinguished when compared to all other of the created order. He is the greatest of all with no rival.

“His Head is like finest gold” (5:11a)

His Head – His sovereign leadership over all is like the finest gold imaginable. It’s perfect, divinely inspired wisdom. It is so excellent. His relationship to the Father is the finest quality possible. All of His dealings with me are absolutely perfect and filled with Wisdom. He can be trusted.

“His locks are wavy and black as a raven” (11b)

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His locks (hair) – His dedication and love to God and the Church is vigorous and full of zeal eternally. Your Son is dedicated to me forever!

His dedication never grows old. It is always wavy and vigorous. His hair is wavy and black, which speaks of His dedication to God and the church being always filled with the energetic zeal of youthfulness. God never grows emotionally weary (Isa. 40:28). He never changes (Heb. 13:8). All other “beloveds” decay and eventually die. He never grows old. His Bride is secure because she has no fear that His dedication will grow old or die. His hair is eternally black. His dedication is fresh, as well as vigorously beautiful. His dedication is vigilant, youthful, and continues to flourish through all eternity. He is forever in His prime. He is always at the highest place of His love and passion and dedication.

“His eyes are like doves by the rivers of waters washed with milk, and fitly set” (5:12)

In His Omniscience He perfectly sees all things through the cleanness of His own heart with childlike purity. There is no exaggeration.

Jesus’ perspective is pure like a dove bathed by waters of milk. His eyes see skillfully and His vision is perfect, being neither farsighted nor nearsighted. Jesus knows all the strategies of the enemy. He knows all things that are important to His people. Our knowledge of “Jesus’ eyes” is a source of security in times of trial. We say, “Oh, God, Your eyes are fitly set, they discern all things perfectly.” Part of the confession she can say back to the Lord is, “Lord, Your eyes are like doves by the rivers of water.” She is saying, “You have not overlooked me. You have skillful discernment to know where I am.” It is very important to know His omniscience. This keeps us from sin, but it also encourages us in times of tribulation and trials. She knows that His discernment about her frame and makeup of what she needs is absolutely perfect.

“His cheeks are like a bed of spices, like banks of scented herbs” (5:13a,b)

His Cheeks – His diverse emotional make-up is fragrant and refreshing to our soul. Jesus is the most pleasant person! Some of His emotions; passion, love, joy, delight, longing, pleasure, etc.

His cheeks speak of His inner beauty that is revealed through His emotions. Jesus’ inner beauty is like fragrant spices. His emotions are sweet like scented

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herbs. His affections are fragrant and refreshing to those who can discern His personality.

“His lips are lilies, dripping with liquid myrrh” (5:13c,d)

His Lips – His Word is sweet and tender, but He can also speak tough love.

His Lips speak of the power of His word. His word is sweet and satisfying like lilies. **Strong meditation on the Word leads to strong affection for Jesus, which leads to strong obedience.** How many people are unfamiliar with the words of His lips, causing their soul to be weighed down with added temptation, distractions and pains? We must deeply value to “lips of Jesus”, the words from His lips. His words have the fragrance of lilies, but it also has the dripping myrrh. When we greatly value His word, our souls will be filled with the honey of His word. We also fight the fight of faith by the written Word of God (Matt. 4:4). When they say to her, “He has abandoned you, life has no pleasure, no meaning.” She would say, “His lips are sweet, Yes, the Word of God is dripping with liquid myrrh.

“His hands are rods of gold set with beryl” (5:14a,b)

His Hands – His Divine Activity is excellent and skillful and beautiful resulting in bridal love for His people.

The works of Jesus in our lives and in all creation throughout all of history are skillful, precise, and filled with Divine power, purity and wisdom. Her confession could be, “what He is doing is for my own good. It is not accidental. He is deliberately allowing this to happen. He is skillfully bringing forth my heart in bridal love. He is doing it with great wisdom, the skill of a great artist.”

The combination of His full power and skill results in goodness for His people. She had the ability to see His works as rods of gold. The Bride has the grace to speak with discernment and affection, about the wisdom, skill and beauty of His works. The ability to see His works as beautiful and lovely is a sign of maturity.

“His body is carved ivory inlaid with sapphires” (5:14c,d)

His Body – His Tender Compassion toward weak sinful people is magnificent, skillful. Nothing compares to it. This is one of the greatest distinguishing features of Jesus. He has extravagant compassion.

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It is as strategic, skillful and purposeful as the process of mounting inlaid jewels. He has great tender compassion, yes, but He also has the skill of putting the sapphires in the ivory. He has that kind of discernment and skill in His mercy. The Lord forgives things in a skillful way that produces righteousness in our hearts. In other words, He forgives that which is repented of and He breaks our heart with it. His tender passion is rare and expensive like that of carved and polished ivory. It is also skillfully inlaid with sapphires. He is very, very precise in His compassion. God's affections are pure, rare, precious and creative. Nothing reveals His beauty like His tender kindness to fallen people. Sometimes His love does not appear to our darkened minds as ivory, inlaid with sapphires. The Bride had a Holy Spirit given ability to see Jesus' compassion and mercy in a greater measure. This gave her new passion in and confidence in spite of her failures.

“His legs are pillars of marble set on bases of fine gold” (5:15a,b)

His Leg - His Walk and Administration of His purposes has strength, dignity, order that endures. It is pure.

God's plans are executed with strength, dignity, and order. They have endurance. They do not fail under pressure. How He proceeds forth or administrates His Sovereign Will is like pillars of marble. His Head, His Hands, and His Legs are of fine gold. God's legs, head and feet are in unity in His personality. His character is golden from head to toe. God never suspends one attribute to exercise another. He can never ignore one feature of His personality to manifest another feature. Ps. 2 describes how foolish it is to stand against the way of the Lord. Rev. 6:17 asks who can endure standing in the way of the Lord?

“His countenance is like Lebanon, excellent as the cedars” (5:15c,d)

His Countenance - His Impartation to His People is strong, excellent, powerful, and pleasurable to their souls.

When God shines His countenance on your heart, He is imparting His manifest Presence. There is nothing more satisfying and pleasurable to the human makeup as the release of the countenance of God on the soul. The devil cannot impart divine and holy things. We can't even impart them. Only the countenance of God can actually release something into the center of somebody's heart. It is

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a very powerful and unique thing that only God can do in terms of righteousness. Obviously, the devil can release torment, anxiety and fear, but the impartation of God is “like the fragrant cedars of Lebanon” that are “excellent as the cedars”. His impartation is always good.

“His mouth is most sweet” (5:16a)

His Mouth - Intimacy with Him is the sweetest, most pleasing experience.

The most immediate response to His countenance shining on the soul is desiring the kisses of His mouth. The more a person feels the countenance of God on their soul, the more they desire the sweet kisses of His mouth. The sweetness of Christ communicated to our hearts, is the most powerful experience a human being can have. There is nothing more powerfully penetrating than when God **allows the human spirit to see even a dim view of Himself**. There’s nothing more pleasurable than when the Spirit releases revelation of God to the human spirit. It is most sweet.

We always have legal access to the throne of Grace, but this speaks of prayer times when we experience the nearness of God. Oh, how sweet! Even the remembrance of former communion stabilizes the soul. I will not deny Him because I am in a difficult time. I will not go for immediate carnal, false comforts and pleasures to **satisfy my heart** or to attempt to in a false way.

“Yes, He is altogether lovely. This is my Beloved, and this is my friend, O daughters of Jerusalem! (5:16)

All of His attributes flow together in perfect unity comprising the loveliest person imaginable! I desire to see all of Jesus’ different faces; He is affectionate, silent, awesome, terrifying, humorous, playful, happy, grinning, aggressive, aloof, parabolic, etc. In Phil. 3:8, Paul stated that the knowledge of the excellency of Jesus was the most powerful motivation for his life of total obedience, sacrifice and hardship.

The Transcendent Beauty of Jesus is a mini-manual of worship. Statements of faith to speak back to the enemy. Statements of faith when we’re wavering,

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thinking of getting substitute stimulus that is out of the Will of God. We live by the Word of God and not by other things.

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