

"THE SONG OF SONGS, WHICH IS OF SOLOMON..."

HEBREW IDIOM:
 HOLY OF HOLIES
 KING OF KINGS
THE GREATEST SONG

MAYBE AUTHOR?
 MAYBE NOT

THINK VOICE IS A GARDEN
 PLAYS VOICE LIKE SOLOMON
 SOLOMON HAD 700 WIVES (SEE 1:1-2)

POETS THAT EXPLORE LOVE AND DESIRE

SOLOMON WAS KNOWN FOR WISDOM POETRY AND A LOVE OF LEARNING (SEE 1:1-2)

1:2-7 INTRODUCTION



THEME ONE

INTENSE DESIRE: SEEKING AN ELIMINATED STATE OF BEING

ENDING: CHERISHED

the Song of Songs

THE JOY OF PHYSICAL ATTRACTION

YOUR EYES ARE LIKE DOVES...
 YOUR HAIR, LIKE A LOCK OF GOAT...
 YOUR TEETH, LIKE LAMPS...
 YOUR NECK IS A TOWER...
 IT'S ALL SO SWEET...



THEME TWO

REMEMBER: HEBREW METRICS ARE NOT VISUAL!

8:6-14 CONCLUSION

LOVE IS AS STRONG AS DEATH,
 ITS PASSIONS ARE AS SEVERE AS THE GRAVE,
 ITS FLAMES ARE OF FIRE, A DIVINE FLAME,
 MANY GARDENS CANNOT ENOUGH LOVE,
 RIVERS CANNOT QUENCH IT ALONE,
 IF ONE WERE TO GIVE ALL THE WEALTH
 OF ONE'S HOUSE FOR LOVE,
 HE WOULD BE UTTERLY SPOILED. (8:6-7)

THE POWER AND INTENSITY OF LOVE IS
 REVEALED & DEEPENED ... OF ... DANGEROUS & DESTRUCTIVE

THE HUMAN LONGING TO KNOW AND BE KNOWN

TRANSCENDENT GIFT FROM GOD
 MYSTERIOUS, AND A GIFT FROM GOD



(OPENING)
 ...A LOT LIKE LOVE...

WHAT IS LOVE POETRY DOING IN THE BIBLE?

THREE MAIN INTERPRETATIONS THROUGH HISTORY:

- JEWISH TRADITION**
 AN ALLEGORY OF ISRAEL AND GOD
- CHRISTIAN TRADITION**
 AN ALLEGORY OF THE CHURCH AND CHRIST
 (SEE EPHESIANS 2:29-32)
- COLLECTION OF ANCIENT POETRY**
 THAT REFLECTS ON THE DIVINE GIFT OF LOVE

* THE DISCOVERY OF ANCIENT EGYPTIAN AND BABYLONIAN LOVE POETRY
 FABLE OF OSIRIS: CULTURAL ENVIRONMENT

A KEY FEATURE
 GARDEN POETRY FORMS
 the Garden of Eden
 (GENESIS 1-2)

MAN AND WOMAN NEEDED AND VULNERABLE, GETTING AND SAFE
 VISION OF A RELATIONSHIP
 UNWANTED BY SIN
 THE SONG HURDS OUT HERE...

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