

LIFE AND BUILDING AS REVEALED IN SONG OF SONGS

Message One

Experiencing Christ as Life by Loving Him as a Person

Scripture Reading: S.S. 1:2—2:9

I. Life and building are the basic and central revelation of the Bible:

- A. Life is the content, and building is the corporate expression of this content.
- B. Life is just God Himself, and building is simply the expression of God as life in a corporate Body—cf. Gen. 2:9-12; Rev. 21:2, 18-19a, 21; 22:1-2a.

II. Life is a person—cf. John 1:4a; 1 John 5:12:

- A. Life is God Himself —cf. Eph. 4:18.
- B. Life is Christ—John 11:25; 14:6.
- C. Life is the Spirit—Rom. 8:2a.

III. Our need is to contact this person who is life:

- A. 1 Timothy 1:14 says, “And the grace of our Lord superabounded with faith and love in Christ Jesus.”
- B. We receive the Lord by believing into Him—John 1:12.
- C. We enjoy the Lord by loving Him—14:21, 23.

IV. According to Song of Songs, the lover of Christ is drawn to pursue Him for satisfaction—1:2—2:7:

- A. The Lord draws us with the cords of a man, with bands of love—Hosea 11:4a.
- B. The Lord wants His seeker to have a personal, affectionate, private, and spiritual relationship with Him—S.S. 1:2, 4.
- C. The lover of Christ progresses by beginning with seeking and continues with finding; after finding comes appreciation, which is followed by a rich enjoyment.
- D. The lover is then brought into the banqueting house, where His banner over her is love; this is enjoyment to the uttermost.

V. The lover of Christ is separated from Him by a wall:

- A. “The voice of my beloved! Now he comes, / Leaping upon the mountains, / Skipping upon the hills. / My beloved is like a gazelle or a young hart. / Now he stands behind our wall; / He is looking through the windows, / He is glancing through the lattice.”—S.S. 2:8-9.
- B. This portrays some separation between the seeking one and the Lord.
- C. We love Him, but it seems that He is away; we love Him, but we do not have His presence; this is because we have loved Him for our goal and for our intention.
- D. The discrepancy between the Lord and the seeking one is caused by two different personalities.

VI. We need to see this crucial turning point—2:8:

- A. John 11 shows us a real discrepancy between the lovers of Jesus and Himself, and this discrepancy is exactly the same as in the Song of Songs.
- B. The Lord is training and disciplining the seeking one to forget about herself, her personality, and her will, and to take the Lord Himself as her person.
- C. The Lord will train us in one thing: to put our personality aside and to take Him according to His intention and His way and for His goal.

VII. Our will must be subdued to His will:

- A. The person we love is a stronger person with the strongest personality.
- B. We must be subdued and conformed to His personality, His will, His intention, and His goal.
- C. The discrepancy between the seeking one and the Lord in chapter two was due entirely to her strong will.
- D. “Your neck is like the tower of David, / Built for an armory; / A thousand bucklers hang on it, / All the shields of the mighty men.”—S.S. 4:4:

1. The neck signifies our will—cf. Exo. 32:9; Acts 7:51.
 2. After the natural will is dealt with, we will have a resurrected will.
 3. The crucified and subdued will is just like a flock of goats standing on the mountain side, but the resurrected will must be like the tower of David built up as an armory where the weapons for fighting are kept—S.S. 4:1, 4.
- E. This is the lesson that we all must learn in order to really experience Christ as our life.