

LOVE BETTER THAN WINE

Contemplations on the Song of Songs of Solomon

Part 6: "The voice of my beloved... upon the mountains"

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THE SHULAMITE:

2:6 His left hand is under my head, and his right hand embraces me.

The Human soul's love for Christ caused her to accept His left hand under her head, to receive all instruction and even discipline from his loving hand. She accepted this without murmuring, because she realized that His right hand embraces her. She recognizes that her rest and stability is found only in the bosom of His Love. At the same time that it may seem that God is being harsh by allowing temptations and sufferings, she feels that He is compassionate, caring, and loving. St. Paul says, "*For whom the Lord loves He chastens, and scourges every son whom He receives. If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom a father does not chasten?*" (Heb 12:6-7)

"But when we are judged, we are chastened by the Lord, that we may not be condemned with the world." (1 Cor 11:32)

"In humility correcting those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth, and



that they may come to their senses and escape the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to do his will." (2 Tim 2:25-26)

"As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Therefore be zealous and repent." (Rev 3:19)

This also gives an image of God's ultimate love for her. He carefully places his left hand under her head to protect her, and embraces her with His right. He is completely covering and protecting and guarding her. He is her shield!

"Happy are you, O Israel! Who is like you, a people saved by the LORD, the shield of your help and the sword of your majesty! Your enemies shall submit to you, and you shall tread down their high places." (Deut 33:29)

"As for God, His way is perfect; the word of the LORD is proven; he is a shield to all who trust in Him." (2 Sam 22:31)

"But You, O LORD, are a shield for me, my glory and the One who lifts up my head." (Psa 3:3)

"The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold." (Psa 18:2)



THE SHULAMITE:

2:7 I charge you, O daughters of Jerusalem, by the gazelles or by the does of the field, do not stir up, nor awaken love, until it pleases.



The bride asks the daughters of Jerusalem not to disturb her Beloved until He wishes, because she hears His voice coming, leaping upon the

mountains, skipping upon the hills. Up to that time, she still has not gotten hold of Him.

2:8 The voice of my beloved! Behold, he comes leaping upon the mountains, skipping upon the hills.

Mankind, being under the assessment of time, was waiting patiently for the coming of the Savior. Every generation asked each of the prophets and holy men, whether he was the Messiah, or should they await another?

“And John, calling two of his disciples to him, sent them to Jesus, saying, “Are You the Coming One, or do we look for another?” (Luke 7:19)

Thus the interim was lengthened until the Incarnate Word came in the fullness of time.

“But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law” (Gal 4:4)

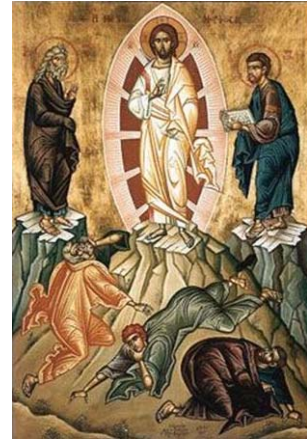
The voice of God was heard on the mountain, but at first it was frightening. On Mount Sinai, Moses heard His voice, after the mountain was shaken, and was filled with smoke. There was thundering and lightning, and it was a terrifying state. Any person or beast that touched the mountain died. (*Exodus 19*)

But in the New Testament:

“And seeing the multitudes, He went up on a mountain, and when He was seated His disciples came to Him. Then He opened His mouth and taught them...” (Matt 5:1-2)

In the New Testament, we heard His voice directly; without any thundering, lightings, or smoke. This occurred after the ***“Word became flesh”***. (*John 1:14*)

Again on the mountain, the Voice (Word) of God was transfigured before His disciples. Their ambition was being fulfilled: ***“It is good for us to be here...” (Matt 17:4)***



Finally on the mountain (of Golgotha) the Voice fulfilled His mission, as He cried out loudly revealing the depth of Divine Love.

“And Jesus cried out with a loud voice, and breathed His last.” (Mark 15:37)

The Voice of God comes to us leaping on the mountain and hills (The Bible). The Voice of God, is revealed on the mountains and hills of the Scripture, as it was heard it in the past through the symbolism and prophecies of the Holy Bible.

The believers were always awaiting the Voice of God, and His coming:

“Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day, and he saw it and was glad.” (John 10:56)

The Shulamite immediately recognized that this is the voice of her Beloved, because she





is from His flock and can recognize His Voice.

“And when he brings out his own sheep, he goes before them; and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. Yet they will by no means follow a stranger, but will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers.” (John 10:4-5)

She declared that it is the voice of “HER beloved” and not “Their beloved”; she feels the personal relationship - He is her personal Beloved and her personal Savior.

“So that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us” (Acts 17:27)

2:8 The voice of my beloved! Behold, he comes leaping upon the mountains, skipping upon the hills. 2:9 My beloved is like a gazelle or a young stag...



The Beloved is not just lingeringly coming down the road, but He is “Leaping upon the mountains, skipping upon the hills... Like a gazelle or a young hart stag.” He is very delightfully coming, that he is “jumping with joy”. He is well pleased with the successful accomplishment of His mission, Salvation. Christ came “leaping upon the mountains”. He came bearing all the pains and sufferings and He overcame it all. He left His Glory in Heaven, made

Himself of no reputation, endured sufferings from His own (creation), and endured scourging, humiliation, and crucifixion.

“Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, Who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, But made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. (Phil 2:5-8)

He endured all this that He may enter into the depth of our hearts which have been purified and made into a holy Sanctuary through the shedding of His Blood on the Cross.

“In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace” (Eph 1:7)

Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.

Mt. 16:24