

**A Garden Enclosed for Him**

**050402-5**

*Hello! This is Dorothy -*

I would love you to find a Bible and turn to the Book of **Song of Solomon**. In this love story, we see the picture of the king, our heavenly Bridegroom and His bride, the believer.

In **Song of Solomon 4:9**, we read -

**9 Thou hast ravished my heart, my sister, my spouse; thou hast ravished my heart with one of thine eyes, with one chain of thy neck. *Thou hast ravished my heart*** could be as said in

one of the Biblical versions: ***Thou hast given me courage to love you; to draw near to you.*** This is the love of the Lord for His Church, for each believer. The Lord who sanctifies and those who have been sanctified are all one in Christ's love. In **verse 11**, the Lord calls her His **spouse** - *that is an old-fashioned word for wife.*

For the first time, He is calling her **spouse**, because the Holy Spirit has brought her through so many testings and she has become altogether lovely in putting His enabling indwelling. He calls her **my sister**, because she now possesses the same nature as the king.

***Thou hast ravished my heart with one of thine eyes . . . -saying that you are willing to come with Me.- . . with one chain of thy neck.*** The **chain** is the symbol of submission to God's instruction. We read in **Proverbs 1:8 and 9** -

**8 My son, hear the instruction of thy father, and forsake not the law of thy mother:**

**9 For they shall be an ornament of grace unto thy head, and chains about thy neck.** She encourages the Lord by her submission to the teaching of the Holy Spirit and His Word, which causes the Lord to know He can now lead her on further.

Over then in **Song of Solomon 4, verses 10 through 15**, it goes on to say -

**10 How fair is thy love, my sister, my spouse! how much better is thy love than wine! and the smell of thine ointments than all spices!** Upon expressing our love to Christ, we respond to God. Setting our mind on heavenly things, the Lord says, ***How fair is thy love . . .*** Similarly, when we consecrate ourselves to the Lord in whatever situation we are in, our love is more perfectly expressed. It says, ***how much better is thy love . . . than the smell of thine ointments.*** The Lord deeply loves us and our love for Him must always take pre-eminence over any other and any other love. Nothing can compare with the fragrance emanating from a believer whose life is molded by the Holy Spirit.

**11 Thy lips, O my spouse, drop as the honeycomb: honey and milk are under thy tongue; and the smell of thy garments is like the smell of Lebanon.** *Now a **smell** cannot be compared to a fragrance. **Honey** takes a long time to produce, and so do sweet and*

*refreshing words. . . . **drop as the honeycomb: honey and milk are under the tongue.*** What is under your tongue as a believer?

You know, it goes on to say we can only share with others what we have stored. Sadly, sometimes, as in **Ephesians 5:4**, we hear anything but what is sweet and kept in the things of the Spirit. For it says there to avoid *foolishness and jesting*. Then in **1 Timothy 6:20** - . . . **avoiding profane and vain babblings** . . . Avoid those things. Store up the things of the Spirit that overflow to the lives of those you meet.

Back to **Solomon 4, verse 11** speaks of *garments. . . the smell of thy garments is like the smell of Lebanon. Garments cover the outside of a person. This speaks of conduct, effecting those we meet in our daily routine with the smell of Lebanon, whereas in Christ, we are to live in the very heavenlies.*

**12 A garden enclosed is my sister, my spouse; a spring shut up, a fountain sealed.**

**13 Thy plants are an orchard of pomegranates, with pleasant fruits; camphire, with spikenard,**

**14 Spikenard and saffron; calamus and cinnamon, with all trees of frankincense, myrrh and aloes, with all the chief spices:**

**15 A fountain of gardens, a well of living waters, and streams from Lebanon.** *Chastity is a garden enclosed. Holiness implies singleness.* Our existence is not for ourselves, but for the Lord Jesus

Christ, filled with the power of His indwelling resurrection life and with the fruit and grace of His Holy Spirit. A garden enclosed for Him.

What about your life? Can you recognize your own Bridegroom? Do you understand why you have been purchased by the Lord? Do you understand that you are that **garden** unto Him? Do you understand what He wants to find in that garden? Do you understand that He is calling you to be His very **sister**, the very closeness of a relationship; His very **spouse**, that one who is in total union with Him? Do you understand that He is looking for that fruit? Do you understand you are the **garden enclosed** for Him? Will you say, *Yes, Lord, gladly! You can have all for Your glory.*

*In Jesus ' Name. Amen.*