

Hello! This is Dorothy -

As we continue in our brief studies of the book, **Song of Solomon**, we learned of the Cross for redemption, for identification; how through the suffering and death of the Cross, we are delivered from the world and self. We learned of our victory and confirmation to the Cross and after how to advance step by step toward resurrection and glory in Christ. But now there is another aspect to the Cross to be experienced. It speaks of the suffering and molding necessary to conform us to Him in a deeper way.

Song of Solomon, chapter 5 ---

2 I sleep, but my heart waketh: it is the voice of my beloved that knocketh, saying, Open to me, my sister, my love, my dove, my undefiled: for my head is filled with dew, and my locks with the drops of the night. Here, although the maiden is asleep, she quickly knows his voice. She had previously learned that all her sins and all her flesh had been dealt with at the Cross. She knew that it was no longer her trying to serve God, but Him living in her and through her. **Galatians 2:20** had become real to her: - **I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.** With this perfect fellowship with Christ, the maiden identifies

immediately the voice of her beloved. He had first revealed Himself as king, but now He calls her out of the inner walls into His resurrection life. The Bridegroom has a perfect love relationship with this, His bride. He reveals something amazing to her: . . . ***for my head is filled with dew, and my locks as the drops of the night.***

We are reminded of just this of Jesus in **Luke 22:44** -

44 And being in an agony he prayed more earnestly: and his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground. The Garden of Gethsemane speaks of God's rejection of His Son and everything associated with the outward rejection by God which subjected Jesus to such extreme shame. Because of God's smiting, He was rejected. This was the greater shame Jesus bore. **Isaiah 53:4 - Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.** Rejected by man and rejected by God. Everything that came upon Him was a chastisement from God's hand. Previously, for the maiden, the believer, the problems were about sin, the world, Satan, and the natural self. But we are totally unfamiliar with God's rejection and man's shame. This is something we never thought we would be called on to understand.

Now the Lord is ***knocking, saying, Open to me . . . Have fellowship with Me in the deepest aspect of a life of suffering in***

*confirmation to My death. Learn of Me and be willing to suffer misunderstandings and shame for the Cross. He calls her **my sister**, pointing to the life of God within her; and **my love**, indicating her knowledge of God's will; and **my dove**, speaking of her purity and consecration. However, He does not call her **my spouse** as one who is in complete union with Him, because He waits for an answer. He waits for an answer assuring Him of status as **spouse**.*

The Lord begs entry, but, interestingly, He will never force any believer to accept Him unwillingly. He knocks and asks and waits. He awaits our response to receive the Bridegroom who is **filled with the drops of the night**. Beloved, some of you have gone through tests that you never understood. You didn't understand why you were isolated; you didn't understand what the price was all about; you didn't understand the shame and suffering. Perhaps you are in Christian leadership, and everything is so different from how you started off years ago. You never thought this would happen! There is so much talk about you and you do not understand what it is. You somehow are not really part of all that is happening, because it is as if you have been called to bear this something that does not have a name! Has it ever occurred to you that it could be that the Lord is bringing you to that relationship where He is calling upon you? He is knocking and asking for your response, that you might understand what it is to be filled **with the drops of the night**. In

other words, that you might understand what it is to bear the shame that Jesus bore; the rejection that Jesus bore. This is not because you are right and everybody's wrong, but in a more intimate relationship with Him to understand His work.

In Jesus' Name. Amen.