

C) TEAR DOWN STRONGHOLDS

2 Corinthians 10:4-5 AMP – (4) *For the weapons of our warfare are not physical weapons of the flesh and blood, but they are mighty before God for the overthrow and destruction of strongholds, (5) Inasmuch as we refute arguments and theories and reasonings and every proud and lofty thing that sets itself up against the true knowledge of God; and we lead every thought and purpose away captive into the obedience of Christ the Messiah, the Anointed One.*

-What speculations do you have, that are against the knowledge of God?

D) RECEIVE TRUTH

2 Corinthians 3:18 AMP – *And all of us, as with unveiled face, because we continued to behold in the Word of God as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are constantly being transfigured into His very own image in ever increasing splendour and from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord Who is the Spirit.*

Galatians 5:1 AMP – *In this freedom Christ has made us free and completely liberated us; stand fast then, and do not be hampered and held ensnared and submit again to a yoke of slavery which you have once put off.*

identity

-The first question we must ask is, “God, how do you see me, who am I?”

“O you fairest among women”
“Lily among thorns”

THE BRIDE OF CHRIST UNVEILED PART 3 – OVERCOMING THE WILDERNESS TRIAL OF INSECURITY March 23, 2003 – Debby Baril

REVIEW

Purposes of the Wilderness

- Place of Passion
- Place of Restoration
- Place of Dependence
- Place of Separation
- Place of Discovery & Revelation

INTRODUCTION

Song of Songs 8:5a AMP – Who is this who comes up from the wilderness leaning upon her beloved?

- Leaning: Supported by divine power/favour; holy confidence
- They made it through the trials of the relationship that threatened to destroy intimacy
- They overcame the curse of disharmony from sin which began in the garden after the Fall

OVERCOMING THREE TRIALS THAT THREATEN INTIMACY WITH THE BRIDEGROOM

1. Insecurity/Unworthiness Song of Songs 1:5-6
2. Little Foxes/Hidden Things Song of Songs 2:15
3. Indifference Song of Songs 5:2-7

I. OVERCOMING INSECURITY

The Bride's Insecurity:

Song of Songs 1:5-6 AMP – I am so dark; but you are lovely and pleasant the ladies assured her. O you daughters of Jerusalem, I am dark as the tents of the Bedouin tribe Kedar, like the beautiful curtains of Solomon! (6) Please do not look at me, she said, for I am swarthy. I have worked out in the sun and it has left its mark upon me. My stepbrothers were angry with me, and they made me keeper of the vineyards, but my own vineyard (my complexion) I have not kept.

The Bridegroom's Response:

Song of Songs 1:8a AMP “O you fairest among women...”

Song of Songs 1:9 AMP – O my love he said as he saw her, you remind me of my favourite mare in the chariots spans of Pharaoh.

-She was as beautiful and sought after as if she were the only woman in a world full of men.

The Bride's Insecurity:

Song of Songs 2:1 AMP – She said, I am only a little rose or autumn crocus of the plain of Sharon, or a humble lily of the valleys that grows in deep and difficult places.

-Compared herself to two common flowers (crocus & lily)

The Bridegroom's Response:

Song of Songs 2:2 AMP – But Solomon replied, Like the lily among thorns, so are you, my love, among the daughters.

-You are as unique among all others as a single lily would be among many thorns.

Effects of Insecurity:

A) INSIGNIFICANCE/UNWORTHINESS

B) JEALOUSY

Proverbs 27:4 AMP – Wrath is cruel and anger is an overwhelming flood, but who is able to stand before jealousy?

C) POSSESSIVENESS

D) CONTROL/MANIPULATION

E) ARROGANCE

F) UNBELIEF

G) ISOLATION

Insecurity/unworthiness shows more about your belief in God than in yourself

Steps to Freedom

A) EXPOSURE

Romans 1:25 NIV – They exchanged the truth of God for a lie.

Proverbs 23:7 AMP – For as he thinks in his heart, so is he (or so he becomes and acts).

B) REPENT

2 Corinthians 7:10a AMP – For godly grief and the pain God is permitted to direct, produce a repentance that leads and contributes to salvation and deliverance from evil, and it never brings regret.