



unfoldingWord® Simplified Text

v90

Song of Songs

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Song of Songs

1 ¹ This is King Solomon's most beautiful song.

The woman thinks about the man she loves

2 I wish he would kiss me on my lips,

The woman speaks internally to the absent man

because how you love me is more delightful than wine.

3 The fragrance of the perfume on your skin is very pleasing.

More and more people are honoring you,
just as the fragrance of the perfume that you have put on your skin is spreading farther and farther.

That is why the other young women are attracted to you.

4 Take me quickly;
take me to your home.

The woman speaking to herself

He is like a king to me;
I desire him to bring me into his bedroom.

The women of Jerusalem speaking about the man

We are very happy about you;
we say that how you love is better than wine.

The woman speaking to the man about the young women of Jerusalem

It is not surprising that the young women adore you.

The woman speaking to the women of Jerusalem

5 You young women of Jerusalem,

I am brown but beautiful;
my dark skin is like the tents in Kedar,

and I am beautiful like the curtains in Solomon's palace.

6 But do not stare at me because the sun has made my skin dark;
my brothers were angry with me, so they forced me to work outside in the sunshine in the vineyards,

so I was not able to take good care of my skin.

The woman speaking to the man she loves

7 You whom I love, where will you take your flock of sheep today?

Where will you allow them to rest at noontime?

I want to know because it is not right for me to wander around like a prostitute,

looking for you among the flocks that belong to your friends.

The man answering the woman he loves

8 You who are the most beautiful of all the women,

if you search for me and do not know where I will take my sheep,

follow the tracks of the sheep.

Then allow your young goats
to eat grass near the
shepherds' tents.

9 You excite me, my dear one,
like a mare walking among
Pharoah's stallions.

10 Your cheeks are lovely with
jewelry,
and your neck is lovely with
strings of beads around it.

11 We will make for you some
gold earrings
that are inlaid with silver.

The woman speaking to herself

12 During the time that he who
is like a king to me reclined on
his couch,
the fragrance of my perfume
spread around the room.

13 During the night I desire to
cradle the man I love between
my breasts; to me, he is like the
bag of sweet-smelling perfume
which I keep there.

14 The man whom I love is
like a bunch of the fragrant
flowers that are in the grape
farms of the city of En Gedi.

The man speaking to the woman he
loves

15 My dear one, you are
beautiful;
you are very beautiful!
Your eyes are as gentle and
beautiful as doves.

The woman speaking to the man she
loves

16 You whom I love, you are very
good-looking,
you are delightful!

The green grass will be like a
bed where we lie down.

17 Branches of cedar trees will
shade us;
branches of pine trees will be
like a roof over our heads.

2 **1** I am like an insignificant
flower on the plains,
like an insignificant lily
growing in the valleys.

The man speaking to the woman he
loves

2 Among all the other young
women,
you, my dear one, are like a
lily growing among thorns!

The woman speaking to herself

3 Compared to other men, you,
the one whom I love, are like an
apple tree that produces
delicious fruit and grows in the
forest among common trees.

You are like a tree whose
shade protects me from the
sun,
and your being close to me is
delightful, like eating sweet fruit.

4 I want you to lead me to the
place where we can make love,
and it is evident that you love
me very much.

The woman speaking to the man she
loves

5 Strengthen and refresh me
with fruit,
because the way you love me
makes me feel lovesick.

The woman speaking to herself

6 The man whom I love has
placed his left arm under my
head,
and he holds me close with his
right arm.

The woman speaking to the women
of Jerusalem

7 You young women of
Jerusalem,
I want you to solemnly
promise me, while the female
gazelles and female deer are
listening,
that you will not cause people to
love romantically
until it is the right time.

The woman speaking to herself

8 Listen! Look! The man whom I
love is coming.

It is as though he is leaping
over the mountains
and skipping over the hills,

9 like a gazelle or a young male
deer.

Look! There he is! He is
standing outside the wall of
our house,
peering in through the window,
and looking intently through
the wooden strips inside the
window frame.

10 The man whom I love spoke
to me and said,

“My dear one, get up;
my beautiful one, come with
me!

11 Look, the cold season has
ended;

the rain has stopped.

12 The flowers are blooming
throughout the country.

It is now time to sing;

we hear the doves cooing
throughout our land.

13 There are new figs on the fig
trees,

and there are blossoms on the
grapevines,

and their fragrance fills the air.

My dear one, get up;
my beautiful one, come with
me!

14 You are like a dove that is
hiding far from me in an opening
in the rocky cliff.

Allow me to see your form,
and allow me to hear your
voice,
because your voice sounds
sweet,

and your form is comely.”

The woman speaking to the man she
loves

15 There are harmful things that
are like little foxes that ruin
vineyards;

do not allow these things to
ruin our growing relationship.

16 You whom I love, you are
mine, and I am yours.

You have pleasure when you
kiss my lips,
as a gazelle does when eating
among the lilies.

17 You whom I love, come and be
like a gazelle or a young male
deer on the mountains in Bethel,
until the evening breeze blows
and the sun sets.

The woman speaking to herself

3 ¹ At night while I lay on my
bed,

I searched for the man whom
I love.

I searched for him,
 but could not find him.

2 So I said to myself,
 "I will get up now and walk
 around the city,
 through the streets and
 plazas,
 to search for the man whom I
 love."

So I got up and went out to
 search for him,
 but I could not find him.

3 The city watchmen saw me
 while they were walking
 around the city.

I asked them,
 "Have you seen the man
 whom I love?"

4 As soon as I walked past them,
 I found the man whom I love.

I clung to him and would not
 release my hold on him
 until I brought him to my
 mother's house,
 to the bedroom of my mother
 who had conceived me.

The woman speaking to the women
 of Jerusalem

5 You young women of
 Jerusalem,
 I want you to solemnly
 promise me, while the female
 gazelles and female deer are
 listening,
 that you will not cause people to
 love romantically
 until it is the right time.

The woman speaking to herself

6 Look! See what is coming up
 from the dry and uninhabited
 area.

Look at what is stirring up
 dust like clouds of smoke,
 and like billows of smoke from
 burning myrrh and incense,
 which are from the fragrant
 powders imported by
 traveling traders!

7 Look! Solomon has sent his
 portable royal chair,
 and it is surrounded by 60
 bodyguards
 chosen from the greatest
 soldiers in Israel.

8 They all have swords,
 and they all know how to use
 them.

Each one has his sword strapped
 to his side
 and is prepared to defend
 against dangers that might
 occur during the night.

9 King Solomon commanded his
 servants to make that royal
 portable chair for him;
 it was made with wood from
 Lebanon.

10 The canopy that covered it
 was held up by posts made with
 silver,

and the base of the palanquin
 was made with gold.

The seat was covered with
 purple cloth,
 and the inside of the
 palanquin was lovingly
 decorated by the women of
 Jerusalem.

11 You young women of
 Jerusalem,
 come and look at King
 Solomon
 wearing the headdress that his
 mother put on his head
 on the day when he was
 married,

on the day when he was very
happy.

The man speaking to the woman he
loves

4 ¹ My dear one, you are
beautiful,

you are very beautiful!
Beneath your veil, your eyes
are as gentle and as beautiful
as doves.

Your long black hair moves from
side to side like a flock of black
goats

moving down the slopes of
Mount Gilead.

2 Your teeth are very white,
white like a flock of sheep
whose wool people have just
cut off

and which have just come up
from washing in a stream.

You have all of your teeth on
both sides of your mouth;
none of them is missing.

3 Your lips are the color of bright
red thread,
and your mouth is beautiful.
Beneath your veil,
your cheeks are round and
rosy like the halves of a
pomegranate.

4 Your long neck is beautiful like
the tower of King David
that was built using layers of
stone.

The beauty of your jeweled neck
is like a thousand shields
hanging on the walls of a tower;
like the beauty of a thousand
warrior's shields hanging
from a tower.

5 Your two breasts are as
beautiful as two young twin
gazelles

that eat grass among lilies.

6 Until the evening breeze blows
and the sun sets,
I will go to your breasts
because they are like two hills
that smell like pleasant
spices.

7 My dear one, you are
completely beautiful;
your body is perfectly formed
and has no blemish!

8 Come back to me, my bride. It
is as though you are in Lebanon
far away, where I cannot
reach you.

Come back to me.

It is as though you are
inaccessible on the top of Mount
Hermon

or the nearby peaks, where I
cannot go to you.

Come from the mountains, where
the lions have their dens
and where the leopards live.

9 You who are as dear to me as a
sister, my bride,
by only once quickly looking
at me with your eyes, and by
one strand of jewels in your
necklace,
you have obtained my full
affection.

10 You who are as dear to me as
a sister, my bride,
your love for me is delightful!
It is more delightful than
wine!

The fragrance of your perfume
is more pleasing than any
spice!

11 When you kiss me, my bride,
it is as delightful as eating honey.
Your kisses are as sweet as
milk mixed with honey.
The aroma of your clothes

is like the aroma of cedar
trees in Lebanon.

12 You who are as dear to me as
a sister, my bride, you are like a
garden that the owner keeps
locked

so that other men cannot
enter it;

you are like a spring or a
fountain that is covered

so that others may not drink
from it.

13 You are like an orchard of
pomegranate trees

full of delicious fruit

and plenty of plants that
produce henna and nard
spices,

14 and saffron and calamus
and cinnamon

and many other kinds of
incense,

myrrh and aloes,

and many other fine spices.

15 You are like a spring in a
garden,

like a well of fresh-flowing
water,

and like streams that flow
down from the mountains of
Lebanon.

The woman speaking to the man she
loves

16 I want the north wind and the
south wind to come

and blow on me,

so that the fragrance of my body
will spread through the air and
attract the man I love.

You whom I love, I am like your
garden.

I want you to come and enjoy
my body,

like someone comes into a
garden and enjoys eating the
delicious fruit that grows
there.

The man speaking to the woman he
loves

5 ¹ You who are as dear to me
as a sister, my bride,

I am ready to go away with
you now and enjoy making
love with you.

It will be delightful, delightful
like when I gather my myrrh with
my other spices,

as wonderful as eating my
honey and honeycomb,
and as enjoyable as drinking
my wine with milk.

The women of Jerusalem speaking
to the newly married couple

Friends, enjoy making love;

fully enjoy all that you do with
each other.

The woman speaking to the women
of Jerusalem

2 I was asleep, and I had a
dream.

In it I heard the man I love
knocking at the door.

He said, "You who are as dear to
me as a sister, my dear one, you
who are like a dove, my flawless
one.

Open the door for me
because my hair is wet from the
dew,

from the mist that has fallen
during the night."

3 But I had already taken my
robe off;

I did not want to put it on
again to open the door.

I had already washed my feet;
so I did not want them to get
dirty again by answering the
door.

4 The man I love put his hand
through the opening in the door,
and I was thrilled in my inner
being that he was there.

5 I got up to open the door for
the man I love,
but first I put much myrrh on
my hands.

The liquid myrrh was dripping
from my fingers
while I unlatched the bolt.

6 I opened the door for the man I
love,
but he had left.

He had turned away and was
gone!

I greatly despaired because
he was not there.

I searched for him, but I could
not find him.

I called out for him, but he did
not answer.

7 The city watchmen saw me
while they were walking around
the city.

They struck me and bruised me
because they thought I was a
prostitute;
those watchmen who were
guarding the city walls took
my robe that was on me.

8 You young women of
Jerusalem,
if you see the man I love, what
will you tell him?

I want you to solemnly promise
me that if you see him,
you will tell him that the way
he loves me makes me feel
lovesick.

The women of Jerusalem speaking
to the woman

9 You who are the most beautiful
of all the women,
why do you think that the man
you love is better than other
men?

In what way is he better than
other men

that would cause you to want
us to solemnly promise that
we will tell him that?

The woman speaking to the women
of Jerusalem

10 It is because the man I love is
handsome and healthy,
outstanding among an
uncountable number of other
men.

11 His face is beautiful and
gleams like gold; he is as
precious as purest gold.

His hair is wavy
and as black as a raven.

12 His eyes are as gentle and
beautiful as doves
which are beside streams.

His eyes are as white as white
doves
which are sitting beside pools
of water.

13 His cheeks are like a garden
where spices grow
and like towers where spices
are kept.

His lips are like lilies
that have myrrh dripping from
them.

14 His arms are like round gold
rods,
that are decorated with
precious stones.

His abdomen is like ivory

that is decorated with
sapphires.

15 His legs are like alabaster
columns
that are set in bases made of
pure gold.

He is majestic, like the
mountains of Lebanon.

He is tall and strong and
outstanding like the cedar
trees that grow there.

16 His kisses are very sweet;
he is completely attractive.
You young women of Jerusalem,
this is what the man I love,
who is my friend, is like, and
this is why he is better than
all other men.

The women of Jerusalem speaking
to the woman

6 ¹ You who are the most
beautiful of the women,
where has the man you love
gone?
Tell us which direction he went,
and we will go with you to
search for him.

The woman speaking to herself

2 The man who I love has come
to me.
I am like his garden where
pleasant spices grow.
He has come to enjoy my body as
a gazelle enjoys grazing in a
garden and as a person enjoys
picking lilies. ³ I belong to the
man I love, and he belongs to
me.
He feels pleasure when he is
near me,
as a gazelle does when eating
among lilies.

The man speaking My dear one, you
are beautiful.

4 You are as beautiful as the
city of Tirzah and as lovely as
the city of Jerusalem.

You are as exciting and
majestic to look at as an army
with banners.

5 Stop looking at me like that,
because your eyes excite me
very much.

Your long black hair moves from
side to side like a flock of black
goats

moving down the slopes of
Mount Gilead.

6 Your teeth are very white,
white like a flock of sheep
that has just come up from being
washed in a stream.

You have all of your teeth on
both sides of your mouth;
none of them is missing.

7 Beneath your veil,
your cheeks are round and
rosy like the halves of a
pomegranate.

8 Even if a king had 60 queens
and 80 concubines
and more young women in his
court than anyone can count,

9 none of them would be as
special as she is. She is like a
dove; she is flawless.

Her mother considers her to
be very special;
she is her mother's favorite
child.

When the young women of the
king's court see her, they say
that she is fortunate,
and the queens and
concubines praise her.

10 Look at this woman who
appears like the dawn,
who is as beautiful to look at
as the moon,
who is radiant like the sun,
who is as exciting and
majestic to look at as an army
with banners!

11 I went down to the walnut
tree orchard
to look at the new plants that
were growing in the valley.
I wanted to see if the grapevines
had budded
and if the pomegranate trees
were blooming.

12 All of a sudden
I imagined that I was among
the chariots of my noble
people.

The women of Jerusalem speaking

13 Come back to us, beautiful
woman from Shulam,
come back to us, in order that
we may see you!

The man speaking

Why do you want to look at the
beautiful woman from Shulam,
as if she were a dancer who
dances to entertain armies?

7 **1** You who are the daughter
of a prince,
have very lovely feet in your
sandals!

Your curved hips are like jewels
that have been made by a man
who shapes jewels very well.

2 Your navel is like a round bowl
that is always full of wine
mixed with spices.

Your belly is like a pile of wheat
with lilies growing around it.

3 Your breasts are as delicate as
two young twin gazelles.

4 Your neck is long and
beautiful, like a tower made of
ivory.

Your eyes sparkle like the pools
of water in the city of Heshbon,
near the Bath Rabbim gate.

Your nose is beautiful like the
tower in Lebanon
that faces Damascus.

5 Your head is majestic like
Mount Carmel.

Your long hair is shiny and
black;

it is as though I, your king, am
captured by your tresses.

6 You are very beautiful and very
lovely!

Loving you is very delightful!

7 You are tall like a palm tree,
and your breasts are full and
round like date clusters that
hang from palm trees.

8 I said to myself, "I will climb
that palm tree

and take hold of those
clusters of dates."

I want your breasts to be like
sweet bunches of grapes that I
can enjoy;

I want your breath to be like
the sweet fragrance of apples.

9 I want your kisses to be like
very good wine.

The woman speaking to the man she
loves

When I kiss you, the man whom I
love,

I want my kisses to be as if
you are freely drinking wine,
and as if wine is flowing over
our lips as we sleep together.

10 I belong to the man I love,

and he desires me.

11 You whom I love, come with me, and let us go to the countryside,

and sleep in one of the villages.

12 And let us go early to the vineyards

to see if the grapevines have budded

and if there are blossoms on them that have opened,

and to see if the pomegranate trees are blooming,

and there I will have sexual relations with you.

13 The mandrake plants are producing a fragrant scent, and the pleasures we will experience as we express our love for each other will be like choice fruits that have been stored,

new ones and old ones.

You whom I love, I have reserved my love for you as if I were storing choice fruit.

8 ¹ I wish that you were like my brother, my own brother, who nursed from my mother's breasts when he was a baby.

Because then, whenever I met you outside the house, I could kiss you,

and no one would criticize me.

² I would like to bring you to my mother's house,

to where my mother, who taught me so many things, lives.

I would like to take you to my mother's house so I could have sexual relations with you there.

Having sexual relations with you would be as if I were giving you spiced wine to drink, as if I were giving you sweet pomegranate wine.

3 The man I love has placed his left arm under my head and he holds me close with his right arm.

The woman speaking to the women of Jerusalem

4 You young women of Jerusalem,

I want you to solemnly promise me,

that you will not cause people to love romantically

until it is the right time.

The women of Jerusalem speaking

5 Look at this woman who is coming up from the wilderness, the woman who is leaning on the man she loves!

The young woman speaking to the man she loves

I woke you up when you were under the apple tree

at the place where your mother gave birth to you, the place where you were born.

6 Keep me close to you, like a seal that rests against your chest as it hangs down from its cord,

or like a seal worn on your bracelet.

The strength with which I love you is as powerful as the strength of death;

it is as strong as the grave.

It is as though our love for each other bursts into flames,
and as though our love is the lightning that Yahweh creates.

7 We love each other so deeply,
that how we love each other can be compared to a strong fire that no river or flood can put out.

If a man tried to cause a woman to love him by saying he would give her everything that he owns, she would refuse.

The young woman's brothers speaking among themselves

8 We have a young sister,
and her breasts are not large yet.

What should we do for her at the time that we promise some young man that he can marry her?

9 We will protect her virginity,
as if we were soldiers building a battlement of silver to protect a wall.

We will protect her virginity,
like we would protect a door from intruders by covering it with boards made of cedar wood.

The woman speaking

10 Like a wall that allows no one to enter, I have remained a virgin and let no man come into me;
but now my breasts are large like towers.

So I am delightful to my beloved.

11 King Solomon had a vineyard at a place called Baal Hamon, and he rented it to people for them to farm it.

He required each one to pay him one thousand pieces of silver each year for the grapes that they harvested.

12 But my body is like my own vineyard, which is mine to give to the man whom I choose.

Solomon can keep the one thousand pieces of silver that he receives from renting his vineyard,

and the farmers who take care of it for him can keep the two hundred pieces of silver he pays them.

The man speaking to the woman he loves

13 You, the woman I love, who are staying in the gardens,
my friends are eagerly listening so that they can hear you speak;
speak to me!

The young woman speaking to the man she loves

14 You whom I love, come to me quickly!

Run to me like a gazelle or a young male deer
runs across mountains where spices grow.