

LIFE AND BUILDING AS REVEALED IN SONG OF SONGS

Message One

Experiencing Christ as Life by Loving Him as a Person

Scripture Reading: S. S. 1:2—2:9

I. Life and building are the basic and central revelation of the Bible:

- A. Life is the content, and building is the corporate expression of this content.
- B. Life is just God Himself, and building is simply the expression of God as life in a corporate Body—cf. Gen. 2:9-12; Rev. 21:2, 18-19a, 21; 22:1-2a.

II. Life is a person—cf. John 1:4a; 1 John 5:12:

- A. Life is God Himself—cf. Eph. 4:18.
- B. Life is Christ—John 11:25; 14:6.
- C. Life is the Spirit—Rom. 8:2a.

III. Our need is to contact this person who is life:

- A. First Timothy 1:14 says, “And the grace of our Lord superabounded with faith and love in Christ Jesus.”
- B. We receive the Lord by believing into Him—John 1:12.
- C. We enjoy the Lord by loving Him—14:21, 23.

IV. According to Song of Songs, the lover of Christ is drawn to pursue Him for satisfaction—1:2—2:7:

- A. The Lord draws us with the cords of a man, with bands of love—Hosea 11:4a.
- B. The Lord wants His seeker to have a personal, affectionate, private, and spiritual relationship with Him—S. S. 1:2, 4.
- C. The lover of Christ progresses by beginning with seeking and continues with finding; after finding comes appreciation, which is followed by a rich enjoyment.
- D. The lover is then brought into the banqueting house, where His banner over her is love; this is enjoyment to the uttermost.

V. The lover of Christ is separated from Him by a wall:

- A. “The voice of my beloved! Now he comes, / Leaping upon the mountains, / Skipping upon the hills. / My beloved is like a gazelle or a young hart. / Now he stands behind our wall; / He is looking through the windows, / He is glancing through the lattice”—2:8-9.
- B. This portrays some separation between the seeking one and the Lord.
- C. We love Him, but it seems that He is away; we love Him, but we do not have His presence; this is because we have loved Him for our goal and for our intention.
- D. The discrepancy between the Lord and the seeking one is caused by two different personalities.

VI. We need to see this crucial turning point—v. 8:

- A. John 11 shows us a real discrepancy between the lovers of Jesus and Himself, and this discrepancy is exactly the same as in the Song of Songs.
- B. The Lord is training and disciplining the seeking one to forget about herself, her personality, and her will, and to take the Lord Himself as her person.
- C. The Lord will train us in one thing: to put our personality aside and to take Him according to His intention and His way and for His goal.

VII. Our will must be subdued to His will:

- A. The person we love is a stronger person with the strongest personality.
- B. We must be subdued and conformed to His personality, His will, His intention, and His goal.
- C. This is the lesson that we all must learn in order to really experience Christ as our life.