

Song of Songs Journeying into Divine Love

Part 6 Song of Songs 1:5



Scriptures

- **2 Corinthians 11:2** – For I am jealous for you with a godly jealousy; for I betrothed you to one husband, so that to Christ I might present you as a pure virgin.
- **Revelation 19:7-9** – Let us rejoice and be glad and give the glory to Him, for the marriage of the Lamb has come and His bride has made herself ready." It was given to her to clothe herself in fine linen, bright and clean; for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints. Then he said to me, "Write, 'Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.'" And he said to me, "These are true words of God."
- **Isaiah 62:4-5** – It will no longer be said to you, "Forsaken," nor to your land will it any longer be said, "Desolate"; but you will be called, "My delight is in her," and your land, "Married"; for the Lord delights in you, and to Him your land will be married. For as a young man marries a virgin, so your sons will marry you; and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so your God will rejoice over you.
- **Song of Songs 1:5** – "I am black but lovely, O daughters of Jerusalem, like the tents of Kedar, like the curtains of Solomon.
- **Jeremiah 17:9** – "The heart is more deceitful than all else and is desperately sick; Who can understand it?
- **Romans 7:21** – I find then the principle that evil is present in me, the one who wants to do good.
- **John 17:23** – I in them and You in Me, that they may be perfected in unity, so that the world may know that You sent Me, and loved them, even as You have loved Me.
- **Romans 8:1** – Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.
- **Colossians 1:22** – He has now reconciled you in His fleshly body through death, in order to present you before Him holy and blameless and beyond reproach
- **1 John 1:9** – If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
- **Psalms 139:14** – I will give thanks to You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; wonderful are Your works, and my soul knows it very well.
- **2 Corinthians 5:21** – He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.
- **Romans 5:5** – ...hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.
- **Romans 7:21-23** – I find then the principle that evil is present in me, the one who wants to do good. For I joyfully concur with the law of God in the inner man, but I see a different law in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin which is in my members.
- **1 Samuel 16:7** – But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look at his appearance or at the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for God sees not as man sees, for man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart."
- **Ephesians 5:31-32** – For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and shall be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh. This mystery is great; but I am speaking with reference to Christ and the church.

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Main Points

- Jesus loves us with the love of a husband today, right where we are at.
- There is a tension in all of us. We are still struggling with sin in our lives and the reality of our righteousness, but at the same time, we are lovely to God. This is captured in the declaration in SS 1:5, “I am black, but lovely.”
- God loves us with the same love that He loved Jesus with. The “sin factor” has been removed from the lives of all who are in Christ (Romans 8:1).
- The closer we get to God, the more His light fills our lives and the “blackness” is exposed and overcome. Initially, God may deal with blatant moral issues that are obvious externally. Then as we progress in maturity, He goes on to deal with more subtle sin in our hearts and minds like selfishness, hidden pride, anger, issues with authority, etc. In effect, God continues to increase the power of the sin-identifying microscope to sanctify us and lead us into great intimacy and fellowship with Himself.
- Any time we become aware of and confess sin, God is faithful to forgive and cleanse us.
- Regardless of sin, you are truly beautiful to Jesus even as you are being sanctified. It is very important to know that you are beautiful to God!
- Why are you beautiful to God?
 - You are created in the image of God.
 - In Jesus, we have become the righteousness of God.
 - You have a “yes” in your heart toward God from the Holy Spirit. In your struggle against sin, you have a sincere love for God, and your desire is for Him and His purposes.
 - God looks at you through His eyes of mercy and compassion. Beauty is in the eyes of the beholder (e.g., a baby in the eyes of his/her new parents).
- According to Ephesians 5, we have been brought into oneness with Jesus, just as two people leave their father and mother to become “one flesh” in marriage. Being united with the beautiful One, makes us beautiful.
- Tents of Kedar were made of a black material, but the curtains of Solomon were white, stunning and beautiful.

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Discussion Questions

1. What does the statement, “I am dark/black, but lovely” mean?
2. Since beginning your journey as a follower of Jesus, what things has God dealt with in your life? What is He currently putting His “magnifying glass” on and allowing you to see?
3. Discuss how you see yourself in the context of verse 1:5. Do you emphasize the first part of the verse (i.e., “I am black”) when reflecting on your life and walk with God? Do you struggle with feelings of shame or guilt?
4. Review and discuss the reasons you are beautiful to God.
5. Read John 17:23, Romans 8:1 and 1 John 1:9.

Use these verses, in conjunction with Song of Songs 1:5 to continue the prayer dialogue with Jesus. Express gratitude for how Jesus has given you “beauty from ashes” and how you are accepted, righteous and loved in Him.

Pray for the Holy Spirit to reveal Jesus’ love in those places where shame or guilt exists.

Remember, there is a difference between maturing or immature love and no love at all. If you are a child of God, there is a “yes” inside you that is deeply pleasing to God.

6. Take time this week to meditate on this statement: “Father God, You are beautiful, and You have made me beautiful to You.”