

SONG of SOLOMON

AN OVERVIEW

Purpose

The Song of Solomon is a beautifully crafted love poem describing the love between Solomon and his bride. It affirms the sanctity of marriage, and pictures Yahweh's love for His people.

Author

Solomon.

Date

During Solomon's reign, c.960-931 BC.

Audience

The people of Israel and for all future generations.

Setting

Israel—the Shulammitte woman's garden and the king's palace.

Special Features

The picture of the two lovers is an ideal one, as are the character portraits in Proverbs: the picture provides the pattern into which God wishes to shape His faithful people, which is also the pattern toward which they will freely give themselves to be shaped. Indeed, one function of wisdom literature is to make that pattern attractive, as the Song of Solomon does in full measure.



Key Verses

"I am the rose of Sharon, And the lily of the valleys." (2:1 NKJV)

"Let him lead me to the banquet hall, and let his banner over me be love." (2:4 NIV)

"My dove in the clefts of the rock, in the hiding places on the mountainside, show me your face, let me hear your voice; for your voice is sweet, and your face is lovely." (2:14 NIV)

"You are altogether beautiful, my love; there is no flaw in you." (4:7 ESV)

"I am my beloved's and my beloved is mine." (6:3a ESV)

"I am my beloved's, and his desire is for me." (7:10 ESV)

Key People

Solomon, the Shulammitte woman, and friends.

Key Places

Jerusalem, Tizrah, Shunem.