

The Time of Singing Has Come
Song of Songs 2:8-3:5

#1: The Longing for Intimacy (2:8-17)

- ⁸ The voice of my beloved!
Behold, he comes,
leaping over the mountains,
bounding over the hills.
- ⁹ My beloved is like a gazelle
or a young stag.
Behold, there he stands
behind our wall,
gazing through the windows,
looking through the lattice.
- ¹⁰ My beloved speaks and says to me:
“Arise, my love, my beautiful one,
and come away,
- ¹¹ for behold, the winter is past;
the rain is over and gone.
- ¹² The flowers appear on the earth,
the time of singing has come,
and the voice of the turtledove
is heard in our land.
- ¹³ The fig tree ripens its figs,
and the vines are in blossom;
they give forth fragrance.
Arise, my love, my beautiful one,
and come away.
- ¹⁴ O my dove, in the clefts of the rock,
in the crannies of the cliff,
let me see your face,
let me hear your voice,
for your voice is sweet,
and your face is lovely.
- ¹⁵ Catch the foxes for us,
the little foxes
that spoil the vineyards,
for our vineyards are in blossom.”
- ¹⁶ My beloved is mine, and I am his;
he grazes among the lilies.
- ¹⁷ Until the day breathes
and the shadows flee,
turn, my beloved, be like a gazelle
or a young stag on cleft mountains.

#2: The Agony of Separation (3:1-5)

- ³ On my bed by night
I sought him whom my soul loves;
I sought him, but found him not.
- ² I will rise now and go about the city,
in the streets and in the squares;
I will seek him whom my soul loves.
I sought him, but found him not.

- ³ The watchmen found me
as they went about in the city.
“Have you seen him whom my soul loves?”
- ⁴ Scarcely had I passed them
when I found him whom my soul loves.
I held him, and would not let him go
until I had brought him into my mother’s house,
and into the chamber of her who conceived me.
- ⁵ I adjure you, O daughters of Jerusalem,
by the gazelles or the does of the field,
that you not stir up or awaken love
until it pleases.

#3: The Hope of Consummation

Ephesians 5:31-32

³¹ “Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.” ³² This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church.