

Hello. /We will begin the 18<sup>th</sup> lecture on Ecclesiastes and Song of Solomon. /The message is from Song of Solomon chapter 5. /During our last lecture, we stopped at 5:1. /Today we will start with the second point—Jesus knocks on the door. /Verses 2-5.

/The Shulammite woman overcame trials as she followed Jesus. /Living like a locked garden, she plentifully bore spiritual fruit and presented them before the Lord. /But when we look at the message today, we see that she has spiritually fallen asleep. /Verses 2-8 are the words of the Shulammite woman.

/Verse 2 says, “I slept, but my heart was awake.” /The Shulammite woman is spiritually asleep. /When we fall asleep spiritually, we say things like, “A person of faith shouldn’t be doing this...”

/The Shulammite woman, although she was asleep, was awake in her heart. /Though she had fallen asleep, it wasn’t a deep sleep. /Her heart says, “I shouldn’t be doing this...” /She has forgotten her first love.

/That is why Jesus goes and finds the woman. /The woman says, “A sound! My beloved is knocking.” /The woman hears the voice of the Lord. /She is moved by the Lord.

/The Shulammite woman has stopped praying as she is spiritually asleep. /She had overcome the trial of the dens of lions. /She overcame the mountains of leopards. /She overcame difficulties and hardships.

/She also overcame every test that she encountered. /But now, she has become complacent in her abundance. /She has begun to fall asleep spiritually. /Rather than praying, she has preferred the pleasures of the world.

/During these moments, God’s word moved the woman. /This is the sound of love. /Jesus is knocking on the door. We must now open the gates of our hearts. Revelation 3:20. /When we do this, the Lord will say, “My sister, my love.” /He will also say to us, “My dove.”

/The Lord also says, “Open to me... my perfect one.” /Jesus asks that we open the doors of our hearts so that we may once again live like a locked garden. /A locked garden should only serve Jesus, but the Shulammite woman opened her doors to the things of the world.

/She should be a covered well or a locked spring, but the Shulammite woman has opened her well. /That is why Jesus is requesting to enter. He wants her to shut the door to the world.

/If we look at the second half of verse 2, we see that Jesus's head is wet with dew. Jesus has knocked on the door all night long. /He is constantly searching for us. /We must examine the state of our faith as we learn this message.

/If you are dozing off spiritually, may you wake up. /The Shulammite woman makes an excuse. /In verse 3, she says, "I had put off my garment." /She says that her clothes are off.

/She asks, "How could I put it on?" /The Shulammite woman is sleeping, so how can she possibly put her garments back on? /She also says, I had bathed my feet; /how could I soil them?" /She is saying that she feels lazy.

/As she gives this excuse and that excuse, she does not return to the Lord. /She has ceased to pray, putting it off until tomorrow and the day after tomorrow.

/It is the same when we say, "I must not do this, I must not do this." /When the woman behaves like this, what does the Lord do? /The Lord's displays his works of authority.

/God forcefully punishes the Shulammite woman. /If we do not awake from our sleep, God's punishment comes to us.

/Verse 4 says, "My beloved put his hand to the latch." /This is Jesus's special act of moving our hearts. /He wakes us up with this special moving act. /For example, we may get into a car accident when we are driving.

/We may lose our health. Also, we may lose our possessions. /Through these situations, God is waking us up from our sleep. /When such events happen in our lives, we must wake up immediately and return to living like a locked garden. /We need to enter Jesus's chambers.

/That is why verse 5 says, "I arose to open to my beloved." /The Shulammite woman, touched by the Lord, repented of her sins. /As we confess of our wrongdoings, we repent. /But Jesus, who should be standing there, has gone away.

/Verse 5 continues, "And my hands dripped with myrrh, my fingers with liquid myrrh, on the handles of the bolt." /Myrrh dripped from the woman's fingers. /What this means is that the Shulammite woman has fallen into a life of extravagance and the pleasures of partying.

/In the past, the Shulammite woman worked hard to follow the Lord, but now, she is leaning towards extravagance and debauchery. /There was a time when Korea's economy struggled. /During these difficult times, a family of five or six slept in one room.

/Believers would go to work and eat dinner with their children, but because there was no space to sleep, they slept in churches. /Even though the church did not have heating, these believers wrapped themselves in blankets and prayed through the night.

/They repented of their sins, and they prayed for their children. /That is how the nation and people of Korea became powerful and wealthy. /Believers purchased nice houses. /They bought nice cars.

/Having all these things, do you think they prayed in the cold churches? /Believers now could shower with warm water, they could drink milk, and they could sleep in a warm room on a comfortable bed.

/Nowadays, people do not attend early morning services even if we ring a loud bell from the church. /Because of the luxury and pleasures of the world, myrrh is dripping from the hands of believers. /At first, the Shulammite woman did not behave this way, but after becoming wealthy, her faith left her.

/She should have opened the door for Jesus immediately after he knocked, but she did not. Because she opens the door after she receives her punishment, Jesus is gone.

/That is why verse 6 reads, "I opened to my beloved, /but my beloved had turned and gone." /Jesus has turned away. /The woman says, "My soul failed me when he spoke. /I sought him, but found him not."

/It is very difficult to find Jesus after he has gone away. /For example, we can injure our hands in a single moment. /However, it takes 15 days for the wound to heal.

/If we accept Jesus when he moves our hearts, we can meet him soon. /However, if we lose Jesus, it takes a lot of time to find him. /Believers! If you have lost your first love, quickly find it again.

/The church in Ephesus in Revelation 2:1 was exceptional in its actions. /However, the church's flaw was that it had lost its first love. /We too must find our first love.

/Third, the state of the believer who searches for the Lord. /Verses 6-8. /The Shulammite woman regretted losing the opportunity to meet

with the Lord. /That is why she says in verse 6, "My soul failed me."  
/She cried out to the Lord, but he did not respond.

/When Jesus calls us, we need to reply to him. If we do not, he will not reply when we call out to him. /The Shulammite woman went out and searched for the Lord. /She actively searched for the Lord.

/As she was looking for the Lord, she encountered watchmen. /Verse 7 says, "The watchmen found me as they went about in the city." /These watchmen symbolize the pastors of today. /In Song of Solomon 3:3, the woman had encountered the watchmen.

/In 3:3, she had encountered the good pastor. /Therefore she easily found Jesus. /However, verse 7 refers to the false prophets. /The watchmen in the verse are false prophets.

/They beat the woman and injure her. /The Shulammite woman is wounded by these false prophets. /This is the reason why we need to meet good pastors. /The verse also says that the watchmen took away the woman's veil.

/The "veil" refers to believers' righteous deeds. /Revelation 19:8. /False prophets seek material possessions. /They do not guide people down the correct path. /They only do harm to others.

/Verse 8 says, "I adjure you, O daughters of Jerusalem, /if you find my beloved, that you tell him I am sick with love." /Here, the daughters of Jerusalem represent believers who are of the flesh.

/Now, the Shulammite woman repents and searches for the Lord until she is ill. /Jeremiah 29:13 says, / "You will seek me and find me, /when you seek me with all your heart." /If we seek the Lord with all of our heart, he will meet with us.

/Fourth, only those who receive will know. /Verse 9.

/The daughters of Jerusalem are talking in verse 9. /Seeing the Shulammite woman, who is sick from searching for the Lord, the daughters of Jerusalem say, "Who is this beloved person you are searching for?"

/Believers who are of the flesh easily believe in Jesus. /They simply come to church and go home. /However, through living in the chambers, the Shulammite woman encountered Jesus. /She encountered him as she lived like a locked garden, like a locked spring, and like a covered well.

/That is why the daughters of Jerusalem do not understand why the Shulammite woman is so earnestly seeking Jesus, to the extent of becoming sick.

/In verse 9, the daughters of Jerusalem ask the Shulammite woman, "What is your beloved more than another beloved?" /They are asking her, "What is so special about this Jesus whom you seek?"

/The person who, like the Shulammite woman, lives like a locked garden and has looked down from Mount Hermon knows about the secret world. /Only those who have received know what it is like. /For this reason, the daughters of Jerusalem cannot understand why the Shulammite woman is searching for the Lord.

/We too must search for the Lord whom we have lost. /We must rediscover our first love.

/Fifth, the beauty of the Lord. /Verses 10-16.

/The Shulammite woman is speaking in verses 10-16.

/Verse 5 says, "My beloved is radiant and ruddy, distinguished among ten thousand." /The Shulammite woman is speaking of Jesus, the one she is searching for. /She says that Jesus is radiant. / "Radiant" here means "pure."

/Jesus is pure. /She also says that Jesus is ruddy. / "Ruddy" signifies glory. /That is why in the past, the kings of Korea wore red outfits. /The red clothing symbolizes glory.

/The red color of the kings' clothing symbolized glory, and it also symbolizes Jesus's kingship. /Jesus is pure, glorious, and noble. /Furthermore, he is distinguished among ten thousand.

/He is the most distinguished of all the people in the world. /He is the best groom there is. /Jesus is the king of kings.

/Verse 11 says that "his head is the finest gold." /The head is a symbol for sovereignty. /1 Corinthians 11:3. /Gold symbolizes faith. /1 Peter 1:7. /The verse continues to say that "his locks are wavy, black as a raven."

/What this means is that Jesus was obedient in every way. /He wasn't just obedient in one aspect, but he was also obedient in the things that were difficult and painful. /At all times, he replied with a "Yes." /2 Corinthians 1:19. /Hebrews 5:8-9 say that /Jesus learned obedience through suffering.

/Verse 12 says, "His eyes are like doves beside streams of water." /The eyes symbolize wisdom and mercy. /If we look into a person's eyes, we can see if they are merciful or if they are scary. /Jesus had eyes of mercy like the eyes of a dove.

/That is why the verse continues to say that Jesus's eyes are "bathed in milk, sitting beside a full pool." /This is talking about the grace shown by the Lord. /In this way, Jesus leads us to a beautiful place.

/Verse 13 says, "His cheeks are like beds of spices." /When the verse says "cheeks," it is speaking of the entire face. /It is saying that the Lord's face is as beautiful as the beds of flowers and the fragrant grass hills. /Our Jesus's face is beautiful and fragrant like the flower beds.

/Jesus's character is beautiful like the flowers. /That is why the Shulammite woman loves the Lord so. /The verse also says that Jesus's lips are lilies. /Lilies are known for giving off a strong fragrance.

/The verse continues by saying that his lips are dripping with liquid myrrh. /Myrrh is a medicinal product that prevents decay, and it symbolizes salvation. /From Jesus's lips comes a voice of apology and salvation.

/Verse 14 reads, "His arms are rods of gold, set with jewels." /Jesus's hands have nail marks on them, as they were nailed to the cross for our sins. /The nail marks on his hand are as beautiful as gold.

/The verse also says, "His body is polished ivory, bedecked with sapphires." /Jesus's body was pierced by the spear and struck by the whip in order to save us. /Thus the Shulammite woman is making a poetic expression. /She is searching for Jesus.

/Verse 15 says, "His legs are alabaster columns, set on bases of gold." /This refers to Jesus walking the path of faith for us and fulfilling all righteousness. /The verse also says, "His appearance is like Lebanon." /Lebanon signifies that which is high and dignified.

/Jesus's appearance is morally honorable and dignified. /His appearance is pleasing to see, much like the cedars. /Cedars stand out among the trees. /They give off a pleasant fragrance. /Similarly, Jesus overflows with a fragrance, and he is distinguished among ten thousand.

/In verse 16, the woman says, "His mouth is most sweet." /The words that come out of Jesus's mouth are very sweet. /Psalm 19:10. /His words are sweeter than honey or honeycombs. /The Shulammite

woman also says, "And he is altogether desirable." /Jesus himself is desirable.

/Jesus is love. /His love is a deep, wide, and great love. /Because the Shulammite woman knows this, she is boasting of Jesus's beauty to the daughters of Jerusalem. /We too must seek, love, and boast in Jesus.

/We will continue with Song of Solomon chapter 6. /The title of chapter 6 is "Temptation."

/First, the Lord is in his garden. /Verses 1-3. /The daughters of Jerusalem are talking in verse 1. /Verse 1 says, "O most beautiful among women." /The daughters of Jerusalem are speaking.

/When they say "O most beautiful among women," they are referring to the Shulammite woman. /They call her "O most beautiful." /The believers who are of the flesh are acknowledging the believer who is of the Spirit.

/I hope you are acknowledged by God and by people. /The one who is acknowledged by God will certainly be acknowledged by people. /Romans 14:18 says, "Whoever thus serves Christ /is acceptable to God /and approved by men."

/The daughters of Jerusalem say to the Shulammite woman, "Where has your beloved turned, that we may seek him with you?" /The Shulammite woman boasted in Jesus. /5:10-16. /Because she boasts in Jesus, the daughters of Jerusalem say that they too want to find him. / We must boast like the Shulammite woman boasts in order to bring the believers of the flesh to faith.

/The person the in ramen commercial must boast in the ramen by saying, "This is delicious!" That way, people who watch the commercial on television will be moved to buy the ramen.

/The Shulammite woman is talking in verses 2-3. /Verse 2 reads, "My beloved has gone down to his garden." /Jesus went down to his garden. /The Lord went down and walked among the fragrant flower beds.

/Where Jesus is, there is fragrance. /Jesus's garden is the place where Jesus rules as king. /Therefore, grace overflows. /The world in which Jesus reigns has no corruption or decay.

/For example, companies, when recruiting new employees, should select people who are skilled, but they choose people they know for the job. /Corruption is rampant in the world. /How bad does it smell in the world?

/However, Jesus's garden, the place where he reigns, is like a fragrant bed of flowers. /The Lord feeds his flock in the garden. /In the garden, the Lord also bends the lilies.

/Bending the lilies means Jesus is taking his believers to heaven.  
/Isaiah 57:1

/Verse 3 says, "I am my beloved's and my beloved is mine." /This means that there is a bond of life between us believers and Jesus.

/The verse also says, "He grazes among the lilies." /Jesus provides spiritual food for his believers.

/Second, the beauty and authority of the believer who keeps his faith. /Verses 4-10. /The believer who keeps his faith is given authority. /The king is speaking in verses 4-10.

/Verse 4 says, "You are beautiful as Tirzah, my love." /The believer who keeps his faith is as beautiful as Tirzah. /Tirzah is the name of a city in northern Israel. 1 Kings 14:17. /It means there is joy.

/Joy abounds in the believer who protects his faith. /The Lord also gives his believers peace. /The believer who keeps his faith has beautiful authority, which is the peace of his heart. /This joy is his authority.

/Verse 4 also says, "You are... lovely as Jerusalem." /Jerusalem is Israel's capital city. /Jerusalem is also a beautiful city. /Believers who protect their faith will live in a beautiful city like Jerusalem.

/Lastly, verse 4 says, "You are... awesome as an army with banners." /This means that the believer who fights the good fight will have strength and courage. /Such is the authority of a beautiful person.

/Verse 5 reads, "Turn away your eyes from me, for they overwhelm me." /Jesus is surprised when he sees the believer's eyes. /The eyes of a believer who keeps his faith are beautiful. /That is why Jesus is overwhelmed. /This is the authority of a believer who protects his faith.

/Verse 5 continues, "Your hair is like a flock of goats leaping down the slopes of Gilead." /The slopes of Gilead are covered with grass. / "Hair" in the verse symbolizes obedience. 1 Corinthians 11:10. /The believer who is obedient is beautiful. /Jesus is giving a compliment.

/Verse 6 says, "Your teeth are like a flock of ewes." /The believer has authority when he chews on the word of God. /The verse also reads, "Not one among them has lost its young." / "All of them bear twins."

/Verse 7 says, "Your cheeks are like halves of a pomegranate behind your veil." /The veil symbolizes humility. /Pomegranates, when broken into two, give off a red light. /This refers to the grace of redemption that comes forth from a believer's face.

/Verse 8 reads, "There are sixty queens and eighty concubines." /1 Kings 11:3.

/Verse 9 reads, "My dove, my perfect one, is the only one, /the only one of her mother, pure to her who bore her." /In this way, the believer who protects his faith like the Shulammite woman does is precious and beautiful.

/This ends the 18<sup>th</sup> lecture on Ecclesiastes and Song of Solomon.  
/Thank you.