

Hello. /We will begin the 19th lecture on Ecclesiastes and Song of Solomon. /In our 18th lecture, we stopped at 6:9. /Today we will start at 6:10.

/The second point: the beauty and authority of the believer who keeps his faith. /Verses 4-10. /The believer who protects his faith is beautiful. /God gives these people authority. /He gives them power and the soul's authority.

/Verse 10 says that the believer who keeps his faith is as bright as the morning sun. /The morning sun is clear and clean. /This symbolizes new life. /The person who protects his faith sees the works of new life. /The believer who protects his faith sings new songs.

/The believer who keeps his faith is made new everyday. /Although our outwardly appearance may be wasting, we believers are being inwardly renewed everyday. /That is why 2 Corinthians 4:16 says, "So we do not lose heart. /Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day."

/The believer may appear to be wasting away, but his inner self is being renewed day by day. /2 Corinthians 5:17 says, "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. /The old has passed away; behold, the new has come."

/The believer who keeps his faith is renewed day by day. /Verse 10 also says, "Beautiful as the moon." /The moon reflects the light of the sun. /By itself, it does not emit light. /The moon catches the sunlight and reflects it.

/The believer who keeps his faith receives light from God and shines it on the world. /Matthew 5:14 says that we are the light of the world. /The believer who protects his faith shines light on the world.

/Therefore, as children of the light, we must live holy lives. /The fruits of the light are kindness, righteousness, and truthfulness. /Ephesians 5:19. /As children of light, we must shine the light.

/Then God will give us authority, and we will reflect the light of truth. /It says that we are beautiful as the moon. /The verse also says, "Bright as the sun." /The sun shines. /Believers must receive the word of truth and reflect it as it is.

/The believer who keeps his faith delivers the light of truth as it is. He does not add anything to it. /Verse 10 continues to say, "Awesome as an army with banners." /The soldiers are carrying banners. /An army can only win the war when it is brave and powerful.

/The believer who keeps his faith must be bold and courageous. /God gives authority to those who keep their faith.

/The third point: going down to the garden of vines. /Verses 11-12.

/Verse 11 says, “To look at the blossoms of the valley.” /The Shulammitte woman is speaking in verses 11-12.

/To check if other believers are keeping their faith, to look after them, the Shulammitte woman has gone down to the garden of vines. /In other words, she has gone down to the church. /Here, it says, “To look at the blossoms.” /The verse says, “To see whether the vines had budded, /whether the pomegranates were in bloom.”

/However, the vines had not yet budded. /This is referring to the very young believers. /The Shulammitte woman has gone down to see if they are receiving grace. /In this way, believers of faith must look after those young believers who do not have faith.

/The verse reads, “I went down to the nut orchard.” /Nuts are known to be hard. /It is difficult to crack their shell. /However, their insides are full of delicious and nutritious kernels.

/This tells us that the Shulammitte woman is a mature believer who eats solid food. /To take care of young believers, we must first have a mature faith. /Then, with a faith that is mature, we must take care of those young believers.

/When we do this, we will be able to nurture those believers. /For us to be able to stand in our faith, we must daily eat solid food. /We must go down to the nut orchard. /Hebrews 5:12.

/Verse 12 says, / “Before I was aware, my desire set me among the chariots of my kinsman, a prince.” /When believers have a faith that allows them to eat solid food, /we will be able to nurture young believers in faith.

/Then, Jesus will guide us. /Believers who fulfill their God-given calling and keep their faith /will walk with Jesus. /Therefore, we must go down to the nut orchard.

/We must go there and take care of young believers. /In order to do this, we must first eat the nuts of the orchard, which are solid food.

/The fourth point: temptation and protection. /Verses 13-14.

/Verse 13 says, “Return, return, O Shulammitte.” /The daughters of Jerusalem are talking. /They are telling the Shulammitte woman to return. /They are asking her to return.

/These women say, “Why are you walking down the road of suffering, the narrow road, by yourself?” / “Join us in our weak faith.” /The people who have a broad faith are tempting the woman. /We must not fall to these temptations.

/The king is speaking in verse 14. /King Solomon is complimenting the Shulammitte woman. /Verse 14 says, “Why should you look upon the Shulammitte, as upon a dance of Mahanaim?” /Mahanaim is a place of dancing.

/The Shulammite woman tried her hardest to find the Lord, devoting her entire self to finding him. /Mahanaim is a place of dancing. /The Shulammite woman poured out her strength to find the Lord.

/When she does this, the daughters of Jerusalem recognize the Shulammite woman as a dancing clown. /Jesus personally defends the Shulammite woman. /He tells them not to stare at the Shulammite woman like they would stare at someone dancing at Mahanaim.

/He is telling them not to make a spectacle of the Shulammite woman. /As we live in the faith of believing in Jesus, we also pour out our strength. /When we do this, people call us crazy.

/They view us as if we are a bunch of dancers. /When this happens, Jesus appears, and he defends us. /The King of kings defends us. /Jesus acknowledged the Shulammite woman as a true believer.

/We must not strive to be acknowledged by people, but we must be acknowledged by the Lord. /The praises of man all disappear. /However, whatever God lifts up remains forever.

/Proverbs 4:8 says, “Prize her highly, and she will exalt you; she will honor you if you embrace her.” /When we lift God up, he will lift us up.

/We will continue with Song of Solomon chapter 7. /The title of chapter 7 is “Walking Together.” /First, the beauty of the believer who protects his faith. /Verses 1-9. /Second, journeying with the Lord. /Verses 10-12. /Third, /the things that the believer has prepared for the Lord. /Verse 13.

/The first point: the beauty of the believer who protects his faith. /Verses 1-9. /God finds beauty in the believer who protects his faith. /The king is talking in verses 1-9. /Jesus is complimenting the beauty of the believer who keeps his faith.

/Verse 1 says, “How beautiful are your feet in sandals, O noble daughter!” /The Lord is complimenting the Shulammite woman’s faith by comparing her faith to the human body. /He compliments her for her beauty.

/The first compliment is about her feet in sandals. /If we look at Isaiah 52:7, we can see that feet represent the spreading of the gospel. /Isaiah 52:7 says, “How beautiful upon the mountains /are the feet of him /who brings good news, /who publishes peace, /who brings good news of happiness, /who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, “Your God reigns.””

/Ephesians 6:15 tells us to wear shoes of the gospel. /Thus God delights in believers who spread the word of the gospel. /There is much beauty in the footsteps of someone who suffers in spreading the gospel.

/Evangelizing is not something that is optional. /It is something we must do. /Acts 1:8 says, /“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses /in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, /and to the end of the earth.” /We must live as witnesses of the Lord. /2 Timothy 4:1.

/Second, the comparison is made to rounded thighs. /Rounded thighs signify a body that has strength. /One round thigh by itself cannot be used, but there must be two thighs. /This refers to unity. /Also, rounded thighs carry out the function of moving the body from place to place.

/Here, rounded thighs are beautiful because they represent believers who work in unity to protect their faith. /Believers who keep their faith are unified with each other. /With Jesus, who is the foundation, as the head, believers work in unity to form one body in which God delights.

/For this reason, one may fail, but two or three will win. /Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 /emphasize unity. /Two is better than one. /Psalm 133:1-3.

/The beauty of believers who keep their faith is seen in unity. /That is why the beauty of unity is said to be like “jewels, the work of a master hand.” /Rounded thighs have a round shape. /This represents a harmonious personality.

/For believers to be unified, they must be in harmony with one another. /Instead of claiming that my thoughts are correct, we must prioritize God’s will as we obey God’s will and say “Amen” to it.

/Like rounded thighs, we must be people of harmony. /It says that these rounded thighs are like jewels crafted by a master hand. /These jewels are stitched together piece by piece. /They represent obedience.

/The third analogy is made to the belly button. /Verse 2 says, “Your navel is a rounded bowl that never lacks mixed wine.” /The belly button is an organ that receives nutrients from the mother when the baby is in the womb. /This represents believers who have received Jesus’s blood and have been born again.

/The verse says the belly button is “a rounded bowl.” /What this means is that the grace of redemption overwhelms the heart and overflows from it. /The grace of Jesus overflows from the heart. Isaiah 55:1

/The fourth comparison is made to the back. /It says, “Your belly is a heap of wheat, encircled with lilies.” /Ephesians 6:14 tells us to fasten the belt of truth around our waist. /The waist represents good behavior and guarding one’s self.

/Because the believer guards himself, he is able to stand in the truth. /It says here that the believer is like the lily. /The believer who protects his faith has a beautiful waist that is like a heap of wheat encircled with lilies.

/The fifth comparison is made to the breasts. /Verse 3 reads, “Your two breasts are like two fawns, twins of a gazelle.” /The breasts symbolize faith and love. /1 Thessalonians 5:8. /The believer who keeps his faith overflows with faith and love, and he is able to share these things with others.

/Sixth, the analogy is made to the neck. /Verse 4 says, “Your neck is like an ivory tower.” /A tower is a high place from which the enemy is observed. /What is the role of the tower? /Its role is to see things that are far out in the distance.

/Why do we look far out into the distance? /We do this because we must protect ourselves. /We must be on guard against the enemy. /The Lord compliments believers who keep their faith by saying that they have a neck like an ivory tower.

/The seventh analogy is made to the eyes. /Verse 4 says, “Your eyes are pools in Heshbon, by the gate of Bath-rabbim.” /The pools of Bath-rabbim are a pond. /Heshbon Bath-rabbim is located 29 kilometers to the east of the northern tip of the Dead Sea.

/The lakes here are very clear and clean. /The eyes of the believer who keeps his faith are very clean. /This believer has spiritual eyes. /He has the wisdom of faith, which allows him to know the truth.

/The eighth comparison is made to the nose. /It says, “Your nose is like a tower of Lebanon, which looks toward Damascus.” /The nose has the ability to smell. /Here, it is referring to believers who discern between what is good and bad. /We must be able to discern the difference between being human-centered and being God-centered.

/Verse 5 says that the “head crowns you like Carmel.” /Mount Carmel is a place of green pastures, which makes it a popular grazing place for sheep and cows. /Then what does the head symbolize? It symbolizes our ideologies.

/It means that the believer’s spiritual ideologies are high and strong like Mount Carmel. /Therefore, we believers must have unchanging ideologies that are high and green like Mount Carmel.

/The verse also says, “And your flowing locks are like purple.” /The tenth comparison is made to hair. /The hair signifies authority. /The color purple signifies nobility. /The believer who protects his faith has noble authority.

/Thus it says “a king is held captive in the tresses.” /Jesus sees beauty in his believers who keep their faith, and his heart is drawn towards them.

/Verse 6 says, “How beautiful and pleasant you are, O loved one.” /When Jesus observes believers who protect their faith, he says they are beautiful. /Verse 6 says, “How beautiful and pleasant you are.”

/The Shulammite woman made our Lord very happy. /What is faith? /Hebrews 11:6 says, “And without faith it is impossible to please him, /for whoever would draw near to God / must believe that he exists /and that he rewards those who seek him.”

/The eleventh comparison is made to stature. /It says, “Your stature is like a palm tree.” / The palm tree is a symbol of victory. /The believer who protects his faith has a victorious faith like a palm tree. /Palm trees are very tall trees. This also means that our faith grows.

/The twelfth comparison is made to the breasts. /Verse 8 says, “Oh may your breasts be like clusters of the vine.” /The breasts symbolize faith and love. The believer who keeps his faith is as beautiful as clusters of the vine.

/The verse also says, “And the scent of your breath like apples.” /Apples give off a pleasant fragrance. /This is talking about the believer’s spiritual breath. /It symbolizes prayer. We believers must unceasingly pray.

/The next comparison is made to the mouth. /Verse 9 says, “And your mouth like the best wine.” /The mouth of the believer is like the best wine. /What is the best wine? It is grace that is shared with others.

/We believers must be graceful in our words. / “Believe in Jesus. Be blessed.” /How graceful are these words! / “Let us praise God.” / “Let us love.” / “Let us serve one another.” /These words of grace are beautiful words.

/The second point: walking with the Lord. /Verses 10-12. /Verse 10 says, “I am my beloved’s.” /The Shulammite woman is speaking in verses 10-13. /The Shulammite woman belongs to Jesus.

/The verses display the Shulammite woman’s sincere love for Jesus. /Verse 10 also says, “And his desire is for me.” /This means that Jesus longed for the Shulammite woman.

/Verse 11 reads, “Come, my beloved, let us go out into the fields and lodge in the villages.” /The Shulammite woman pleaded to the Lord that they go to a quiet place and share in their relationship. /In this way, we too must search for Jesus, find a quiet place or mountain, and pray.

/The Shulammite woman requested that she walk with the Lord. /We must put in our effort to meet with the Lord. /We must share a relationship with the Lord.

/Verse 12 says, “Let us go out early to the vineyards.” /To meet with the Lord, we must wake up early. /Jesus rose at dawn and prayed. Matthew 1:35.

/The vineyards symbolize the church. /We need to go to the church and do our deeds of faith. /At the vineyards, the vines have budded. /The grape blossoms have opened. /The pomegranates are in bloom. /When we faithfully work in the vineyards, we will meet the

one whom we love. /The believer who does this will meet with the Lord and walk with him.

/The third point: the things the believer has prepared for the Lord. /Verse 13.
/Verse 13 says, “The mandrakes give forth fragrance.” /Mandrakes symbolize affection. /Mandrakes are mentioned in Genesis 30:14.

/In the past, mandrakes were known to be a medicine that was useful for a married couple. /What spiritual meaning does the mandrake hold? It signifies a beautiful, spiritual relationship between the believer and Jesus.

/The verse continues, “And beside our doors are all choice fruits.” /The true believer bears the fruits of loving Jesus. /He bears the precious fruits of faith. /The true believer bears the fruits of the Holy Spirit.

/Verse 13 reads, “Beside our doors are all choice fruits, new as well as old.” /The choice fruits are both new and old fruits. /Spiritual fruits of the past as well as newly grown spiritual fruits are hanging in clusters within the believer.

/A believer bears new fruit when he faces new situations. We believers must plentifully bear new fruit when we face trials. /Revelation 22:2.

/This concludes the 19th lecture on Ecclesiastes and Song of Solomon. /Thank you.