

SONG OF SONGS

A CASE STUDY IN USING THE QUADRIGA



LITERAL

- The Song is a Hebrew love poem about a passionate human romance that must be considered in its original historical/cultural context.
- The Song directly teaches crucial lessons about romance, sexuality, marriage, relationships, and human desire.

“Because of its excellence, I consider this nuptial song to be well deserving of the title that so remarkably ignates it, the Song of Songs, just as he in whose honor it is sung is uniquely proclaimed as King of kings and Lord of lords.”

BERNARD OF CLAIRVAUX



TYPOLOGICAL/ ALLEGORICAL

- All marriage, romance, and sexuality is ordained by God to be a sign of Christ and his bride, the Church (Eph. 5:31–32).
- Because the Song describes an ideal romance between a shepherd “king” and his bride, and points to Israel’s relationship with Yahweh, special attention must be given to how the language of the Song points to and finds its fullest expression in the marriage of Christ and his Church.
- The language of the Song is frequently applied to Christ in church history: “lily of the valley”; “fairest of ten thousand to my soul”; “his banner over me is love”; etc.

“This Book stands like the tree of life in the midst of the garden, and no man shall ever be able to pluck its fruit, and eat from it, until first he has been brought by Christ past the sword of the cherubim, and led to rejoice in the love which has delivered him from death. The Song of Solomon is only to be comprehended by the men whose standing is within the veil. The outer court worshipers, and even those who only enter the court of the priests, think the Book a very strange one; but those who come very near to Christ can often see in this Song of Solomon the only expression which their love to their Lord desires.”

CHARLES SPURGEON



MORAL/ TROPOLGICAL

- By viewing the woman in the Song as the Church, the moral implications for the Christian life are deeper and clearer.
- The Song teaches the Church how to seek and love Christ her bridegroom, how to receive his love, and how to adorn and beautify herself in preparation for the Marriage Supper of the Lamb.



ANAGOGICAL/ ESCHATOLOGICAL

- The longing of the bride for complete and unhindered union with the King points to the Marriage Supper of the Lamb and the perfect enjoyment of Christ in heaven.
- The language of Eden runs through the book and points to a restored Eden in which the king has overcome every hindrance to love so that he may ravish his bride forever without hindrance.