

Song of Solomon 3:6-11 – Love Delivered

Verse 6 – Solomon's Arrival: A King Coming from the Wilderness

Song of Solomon 3:6 (NKJV)

"Who is this coming out of the wilderness Like pillars of smoke, Perfumed with myrrh and frankincense, With all the merchant's fragrant powders?"

Key Points:

- Solomon is coming out of the wilderness, signifying a connection to Israel.
- The phrase *"like pillars of smoke"* connects to the pillar of cloud and fire that led Israel in the wilderness (Exodus 13:21-22).
- The pillar of cloud represented God's presence and guidance for His people.
- Typology of Christ:
 - Jesus, like Solomon, came to His people as a King, bringing light, not judgment.
 - He did not come as a *pillar of fire* (judgment), but as a *pillar of cloud* (grace and revelation).
 - This mirrors Jesus' first coming, which was not for condemnation but for salvation (John 3:17-21).

Cross References:

- **Exodus 13:21-22** – God led Israel with a pillar of cloud by day.
 - **John 3:17-21** – Jesus came not to condemn the world, but to bring light.
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Verse 6 – The Significance of Myrrh and Frankincense

Song of Solomon 3:6 (NKJV)

"Perfumed with myrrh and frankincense, With all the merchant's fragrant powders."

Key Points:

- **Myrrh and frankincense** were among the gifts brought to Jesus at His birth (Matthew 2:11).
- **Symbolism of the Gifts:**

- **Frankincense** was used in temple worship, representing prayer and intercession (Exodus 30:34).
- **Myrrh** was used in burial preparations, foreshadowing Jesus' death (John 19:39-40).
- This points to Jesus' passion—He was born to die and redeem mankind.
- Just as Solomon's presence was marked by these fragrances, Jesus' arrival on earth was foretold through the same symbols.

Cross References:

- **Matthew 2:11** – The Magi bring gold, frankincense, and myrrh to Jesus.
 - **John 19:39-40** – Myrrh is used in Jesus' burial preparations.
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Verses 7-8 – Solomon Surrounded by Warriors

Song of Solomon 3:7-8 (NKJV)

"Behold, it is Solomon's couch, With sixty valiant men around it, Of the valiant of Israel. They all hold swords, Being expert in war. Every man has his sword on his thigh Because of fear in the night."

Key Points:

- **Solomon** is surrounded by sixty warriors, each carrying a sword.
- **Symbolism of the Sword:**
 - The **sword** represents the **Word of God** (Ephesians 6:17, Hebrews 4:12).
 - Just as Solomon's warriors carried swords, the **Scriptures "carry" Christ**, revealing Him to us.
- **Significance of the Number 60:**
 - **Twelve** is a significant biblical number (12 tribes of Israel, 12 apostles).
 - **Five sets of 12 equal 60**, reflecting the divisions of the Old Testament:
 - **Law (Torah)** – 5 Books
 - **History** – 12 Books
 - **Wisdom/Psalms** – 5 Books
 - **Major Prophets** – 5 Books
 - **Minor Prophets** – 12 Books
 - This imagery connects the Old Testament revelation to Jesus as the fulfillment of God's promises.

Cross References:

- **Ephesians 6:17** – The Word of God is the sword of the Spirit.
- **Hebrews 4:12** – The Word of God is sharper than any two-edged sword.

Verses 9-10 – Solomon's Palanquin (Royal Carriage) – A Picture of Christ's Work

Song of Solomon 3:9-10 (NKJV)

"Of the wood of Lebanon Solomon the King Made himself a palanquin:

He made its pillars of silver, Its support of gold, Its seat of purple, Its interior paved with love By the daughters of Jerusalem."

Key Points:

- **Solomon's palanquin (royal carriage)** symbolizes Christ's redemptive work.
- **Materials and Their Meanings:**
 - **Wood of Lebanon** – Represents Jesus' humanity (incarnation) and the wooden cross upon which He died.
 - **Silver** – The price of redemption (Numbers 18:15-16, 30 pieces of silver for Jesus' betrayal in Matthew 26:15).
 - **Gold** – Represents Jesus' deity as the Son of God.
 - **Purple Fabric** – Represents royalty, as Jesus is King of Kings (Mark 15:17-18).
 - **Interior Paved with Love** – The foundation of Jesus' mission: love for humanity (John 3:16).
- **Typology:**
 - Jesus' mission was built on love, redemption, and kingship.
 - The wood of Lebanon (cedar) was resistant to decay, symbolizing the eternal nature of Christ's sacrifice.

Cross References:

- **Numbers 18:15-16** – Silver was used as a redemption price.
- **Mark 15:17-18** – Jesus was clothed in purple as a sign of mockery but was truly King.
- **John 3:16** – God's love is the foundation of Jesus' mission.

Verse 11 – The King's Crown – A Picture of Jesus' Glory

Song of Solomon 3:11 (NKJV)

"Go forth, O daughters of Zion, And see King Solomon with the crown With which his mother crowned him On the day of his wedding, The day of the gladness of his heart."

Key Points:

- Solomon's crown was given by his mother, Bathsheba.
- This foreshadows Mary, the mother of Jesus, bringing the Savior into the world.
- Jesus' Two Crowns:
 - **A crown of thorns** at His crucifixion (John 19:2).
 - **A crown of glory** when He returns as King of Kings (Revelation 19:12).
- **Typology:**
 - Just as Solomon's coronation was joyful, Jesus' second coming will be a time of rejoicing for His people.
 - Jesus' first coming was marked by suffering, but His second coming will be in glory and victory.

Cross References:

- **John 19:2** – Jesus wore a crown of thorns at His crucifixion.
 - **Revelation 19:12** – Jesus returns wearing many crowns as King of Kings.
 - **Philippians 2:5-11** – Jesus humbled Himself but will be exalted above all.
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Conclusion: Christ's First Impression – A King Who Came to Save

- Solomon's majestic entrance symbolizes Jesus' first coming, full of grace and sacrifice.
- He came not in judgment, but in love.
- The Scriptures reveal and uphold Christ, just as Solomon was carried by warriors with swords.
- His mission was motivated by love, and He will return as King of Kings.

1. **From verse 6, where is Solomon coming from, and what is he compared to? Can you think of another time this imagery appears in the Scriptures, and how does it relate to what it represents?**

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2. **What types of perfume are mentioned, and where else do we see them in the Bible? What was their intended use?**

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3. **Who surrounds Solomon in verses 7-8, and what are they carrying? What does this represent throughout the Bible?**

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4. **What materials did Solomon use to build his palanquin in verses 9-10? What does this typify, and why is it significant?**

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5. **What does the Shulamite tell everyone to look at concerning the King? Who gave it to him, and why might this be important?**