

## THE ALTOGETHER LOVELY ONE

### TEXT:

***Song of Solomon 5:16: His mouth is most sweet: yea, He is altogether lovely. This is my beloved, and this is my friend, O daughters of Jerusalem.***

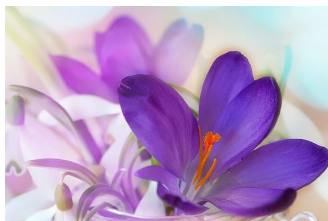
The Bride of Christ, Who has long beheld and been wooed by Christ, now delivers a discourse concerning her wonderful Lord. After describing Him from head to foot, she summarizes all by saying . . . He is *Altogether Lovely*.

All who have known Christ, whether on earth or in Heaven, speak the same. The closer they live and the longer they stay in His Presence, the more wonderful He is. Every longing is completely satisfied in Him. Without Him, every soul outside of Christ is missing the greatest part of his life. He is our Life, says the Apostle Paul.

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***Colossians 2:10: And ye are complete in Him, which is the Head of all principality and power.***

***Colossians 3:4: When Christ, Who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with Him in Glory.***



Jesus is the **Bread of Life**, the **Water of Life**, the **Rose of Sharon**, the **Lily of the Valley**.

He satisfies the deepest longings of redeemed souls. Their newly-transformed life has deeper and many more longings than the world could ever satisfy. Paul said in:

***Philippians 3:8: I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus, my Lord.***

This expression comes from the heart ravished with His Presence.

Has your spirit been so blessed by the love of Jesus? The heavenly song – has it sprung up in your heart to Him?

This text was written by someone so utterly overcome by emotion, so intense, so overwhelming. These words are an attempt to express the inexpressible. The espoused sees more and feels more deeply than she can put into words, beginning by a description of the outward person, and ending lost in the preciousness and glories of the inward person.

She says, “*My love is white, ruddy,*” and then from head to toe and so overcome with admiration, feels unable to do justice to the greatness of the Bridegroom.

***Song of Solomon 5:10: My beloved is white and ruddy, the chiefest among ten thousand.***

She becomes lost in praise to Him Who is fairest of 10,000 to her soul. Do you know Jesus that way? If you don't, you don't really know Him well.

My soul reaches out again after these seasons of soul rapture when lost in wonder of His Presence, we care not whether we are in the body or out of the body.

***2 Corinthians 12:2: I knew a man in Christ above fourteen years ago, (whether in the body, I cannot tell; or whether out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth;) such an one caught up to the third heaven.***

Just let the world go by, but give me more of Jesus, dear Father.

Mary felt so fully this way about Jesus that she poured out the precious, priceless ointment.

***Mark 14:3: And being in Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as He sat at meat, there came a woman having an alabaster box of ointment of spikenard very precious; and she brake the box, and poured it on His head.***



On another occasion, Martha tried to drag her to the kitchen to help fix supper, but she could not leave her place, sitting at His dear feet, thrilled with the love shared by those who knew Him best.

***Luke 10:38-40:***

***38 Now it came to pass, as they went, that He entered into a certain***

**village: and a certain woman named Martha received Him into her house.**

**39 And she had a sister called Mary, which also sat at Jesus' feet, and heard His Word.**

**40 But Martha was cumbered about much serving, and came to Him, and said, Lord, dost Thou not care that my sister hath left me to serve alone? bid her therefore that she help me.**



Jesus was so ravished by her devotion to Him in worship that is most true, He replied,

**Luke 10:41-42:**

**41 And Jesus answered and said unto her, Martha, Martha, thou art careful and troubled about many things:**

**42 But one thing is needful: and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her.**

Praise God, for when we want Jesus most of all, He will let nothing or no one separate us from Him.

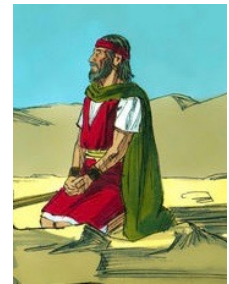
Moses, with veiled face, came from the glories of His Presence for which he had cried:

**Exodus 33:18-20:**

**18 And he said, I beseech Thee, shew me Thy glory.**

**19 And He said, I will make all My goodness pass before thee, and I will proclaim the Name of the LORD before thee; and will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will shew mercy on whom I will shew mercy.**

**20 And He said, Thou canst not see My face: for there shall no man see Me, and live.**



After this soul rapture with his Lord, he came down Mount Sinai and turned to deepest grief to see God's children forsaking **The Altogether Lovely One** for a molten calf they had graven as an idol.

Only those who feel deeply about Christ can know how Moses must have felt when he ordered them to drink the powdered water made from the molten calf, which he must have done after the terrible smashing of it to pieces to make powder of it.

Then there was Thomas who was not with the disciples the first time Jesus

appeared them, and did not believe He had risen from the dead.

**John 20:24-29:**

**24 But Thomas, one of the twelve, called Didymus, was not with them when Jesus came.**

**25 The other disciples therefore said unto him, We have seen the Lord. But he said unto them, Except I shall see in His Hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into His Side, I will not believe.**

**26 And after eight days again His disciples were within, and Thomas with them: then came Jesus, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, Peace be unto you.**

**27 Then saith He to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold My Hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into My Side: and be not faithless, but believing.**

**28 And Thomas answered and said unto Him, My Lord and my God.**

**29 Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen Me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed.**

Thomas' bleary eyes were beclouded by doubts, and Jesus made Himself known and most real to the poor, weak disciple. The Lord God will do the same for you if you really want, with an honest heart, to know Him better.

Only our low state of grace in spiritual life hinders our enjoyment of Him. We do not take time to seek Him, and thereby we do not find Him. If our spiritual appetite for Him is gone, it is an indication of decay or death. We will see little rejoicing, worship, and praise to Him in such a church. There is little pressing in to Him.

**Song of Solomon 1:7: Tell me, O thou whom my soul loveth, where thou feedest, where thou makest thy flock to rest at noon: for why should I be as one that turneth aside by the flocks of thy companions?**

So many have lived so long without Him that they have lost all sense of sorrow that He is withdrawn. Job cried out, "Oh, that I knew where I could find Him!"

**Job 23:3: Oh that I knew where I might find Him! that I might come even to His seat!**

Won't you take the time to search for Him today? When you find Him, you will discover that *He is Altogether Lovely*.

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