

8.c. THE GLORIE'S AND EXCELLENCES OF CHRIST

As the cliché goes "Beauty is in the eye of the beholder" We may not always see what others regard as attractive, but as far as our Lord Jesus Christ is concerned, it is the enlightenment of the Holy Spirit that enables us to see the beauty and excellences of our Saviour. This beauty of Jesus is well spelt out in the Song of Solomon, and it is by the power of the Holy Spirit that we are able to savour and appreciate these beauties.

These beauties described in Song of Solomon, not only refer to Christ's physical form, but also to what He represents in the Kingdom of God. **SONG 5:11** describes His Head as being like the finest Gold. Gold is synonymous with beauty and durability. This represents the splendour and authority and durability of the Kingdom of Christ (ETERNITY).

It is a Kingdom that is glorious. This is well described in the **REV 21 AND INTO 22. REV 21:7** says, "He who overcomes will inherit all this, and I will be his God and he will be my son". Forget about Bishops Court and Constantia, they won't ever be the servant's quarters!!!

SONG 5:11 goes on to describe His locks as wavy and black as a raven. Black and dark being the unsearchableness of the thoughts of Christ. Wavy symbolizing order and beauty - lack of confusion. It also denotes beauty and youthful strength.

SONG 5:12 "His eyes are like doves by the rivers of water, washed with milk and fitly set" Doves are known as gentle birds who inhabit leafy locations near water. A dove's eyes are clear and bright. Eyes convey the mood or state of mind of a person (smiling eyes or flashing with anger). In Christ they symbolize knowledge, understanding and a discerning Spirit. This kindness of our Lord is that which He shows to His Church - no anger or vengeance.

They show compassion. The Lord is concerned about, and cares for His Church.

Clear eyes signify purity. They cannot look on wickedness. We know that the regenerate are covered with the cloak of righteousness, which is the blood of Christ. God cannot look on sin. The boastful (proud) and the wicked shall not stand in His sight. He covers us completely with His own righteousness.

Christ's discernment is signified. He is able to see quickly, clearly, and thoroughly. **REV 2:23** "... I am He who searches hearts and minds" The deceitfulness of hypocrites are no covering for Christ. He knows what men are thinking in their hearts, for "as a man thinks in his heart, so is he"

SONG 5:16 "He is altogether lovely" Everything about Jesus is beautiful. His understanding is infinite - it knows no limits without the tiniest speck of limitation.

"As the scent of flowers please the natural sense of smell, refreshes the Spirits and delights the person, so the graces of Christ please, refresh and delight the saints" and so as in the gospel, the graces of Christ are set out as in an embankment of flowers in full bloom, so as to supply the Saints in all their needs. These Graces of Christ are brought to us through the preaching of God's word.

SONG 5:13 "... His lips are lilies, dripping liquid myrrh" The words that proceed from Christ's mouth are the only truth. They are the hope of those seeking God. "So, men wondered and were amazed at the words of Grace that came from His mouth". The words preached unto the saving

of souls are "the fragrance of Christ" The words of Christ are desirable; His commands are beautiful as are His promises and even His warnings.

SONGS 5:14 "His hands are rods of gold set with beryl" Christ's hands symbolize His work. Were not those the hands that were pierced that we may live? Those hands bore the fruit of His wisdom, love, and generosity "His body is carved ivory inlaid with sapphires" This describes the Glory of Christ's feelings and emotions - the tender and unspeakable love of Christ for His people.

SONG 5:15,16 "His legs are pillars of marble, set in bases of fine gold. His countenance is like Lebanon, excellent as cedars. His mouth is most sweet" These words embrace Christ in the strength of His Kingdom, the faithfulness and stability of His promises, and the sacredness of our communion with Him.

We also see a glimpse of Christ in the **REVELATION 1:13 FF.** This is Christ in His power, splendour, and authority.

It is not possible to find adequate words to describe who Jesus is. He is the epitome of Love, Beauty, Splendour, Kindness, Generosity, Patience, Providence, Power, Authority and Justice. These are all ours through His Grace. He is the Husband of His people - the Church. May we never forget to praise and thank God for this most precious of gifts.