

SONG OF SOLOMON CHAPTER 5

¹ Let my kinsman come down into his garden, and eat the fruit of his choice berries. I have come into my garden, my sister, my spouse: I have gathered my myrrh with my spices; I have eaten my bread with my honey; I have drunk my wine with my milk. Eat, O friends, and drink; yes, brothers, drink abundantly. ² I sleep, but my heart is awake: the voice of my kinsman knocks at the door, *saying*, "Open, open to me, my companion, my sister, my dove, my perfect one: for my head is filled with dew, and my locks with the drops of the night." ³ I have put off my coat; how shall I put it on? I have washed my feet, how shall I defile them? ⁴ My kinsman put forth his hand by the hole of the door, and my belly moved for him. ⁵ I rose up to open to my kinsman; my hands dropped myrrh, my fingers choice myrrh, on the handles of the lock. ⁶ I opened to my kinsman; my kinsman was gone: my soul failed at his speech: I sought him, but did not find him; I called him, but he did not answer me. ⁷ The watchman that make their rounds in the city found me, they struck me, they wounded me; the keepers of the walls took away my veil from me. ⁸ I have charged you, O daughters of Jerusalem, by the powers and the virtues of the field: if you should find my kinsman, what are you to say to him? That I am wounded with love.

⁹ What is your kinsman *more than another* kinsman, O fairest among women? What is your kinsman *more than another* kinsman, that you have so charged us? ¹⁰ My kinsman is white and ruddy, chosen out from myriads. ¹¹ His head is as very fine gold, his locks are flowing, black as a raven. ¹² His eyes are as doves, by the pools of waters, washed with milk, sitting by the pools. ¹³ His cheeks are as bowls of spices pouring forth perfumes: his lips are lilies, dropping choice myrrh. ¹⁴ His hands are as turned gold set with beryl: his belly is an ivory tablet on a sapphire stone. ¹⁵ His legs are marble pillars set on golden sockets: his form is as Lebanon, choice as the cedars. His throat is most sweet, and altogether desirable. This is my kinsman, and this is my companion, O daughters of Jerusalem.