

Song of Solomon

1. **Titles:**
 - A. Canticles -- Latin Title
 - B. The Song of Songs -- (1:1 with 1 Kings 4:32)
 - C. The Book of Love
2. **Author:**

Written by Solomon (1:1)
3. **Date:** Written about 970 B.C.
4. **Key Words:**
 - A. Beloved ('s) - 33
 - B. Love (th, s, ly) - 33
 - C. Fair (est) - 14**Key Phrase:**
 - A. "daughters of Jerusalem" - 7
5. **Key Verses:**

The Three Stages of Love –

 - A. 2: 16 "My beloved is mine, and I am his"
 - B. 6:3 "I am my beloved's and my beloved is mine"
 - C. 7:10 "I am beloved's, and his desire is toward me"
6. **Purpose:**
 - A. Literal: To glorify marriage and wedded love.
 - B. Mystical: To represent the love of Jehovah for Israel. (Hosea 2:19, 20 Recognised by Jewish students from early times)
 - C. Prophetical: To represent the love of Christ and the church. (2 Corinthians 11:2, 5:22-33; Revelation 19:7-9) Ephesians
 - D. Devotional: To represent the love of Christ and the Believer.
7. **Message:**
 - A. Our relationship to Christ is to be a growing love relationship.
 - B. True love is strong and unquenchable (Ch. 8:7).
8. **Outline:**
 - I. First Song ----- Initial Love Ch. 1:1-2:7
 - II. Second Song ----- Faltering Love Ch. 2:8-3:5
 - III. Third Song ----- Growing Love Ch. 3:6-5:1
 - IV. Fourth Song ----- Transforming Love Ch. 5:2-8:5
 - V. Fifth Song ----- Mature Love Ch. 8:5-14
9. **Summary:**

Solomon composed over a thousand songs (1 K. 4:32) and of all his songs this, the song of Songs, was the most excellent. It is actually made up of five songs which together show the progressive development of the love relationship between a bride and bridegroom. It also describes the many obstacles that the bride has to overcome in order to be truly united with her beloved. The two main characters that speak in this song are the bridegroom, who speaks of his bride as his "love", and the bride, who refers to her bridegroom as her "beloved". There is a chorus of the daughters of Jerusalem that are heard throughout the song as well as a group of observers that are heard from in chapter three.
10. **Christ Seen:**

Christ is seen as the King of Peace (Solomon) and the Beloved Bridegroom Lover of the church, who is "the fair one and undefiled", (Shulamite means "peaceable", "perfect") "This is a great mystery; but I speak concerning Christ and the church." (Ephesians 5:32)