



His Refreshing Presence Turns Winter into Spring

Song of Solomon 2:10-13 (New King James Version)

10 My beloved spoke, and said to me: "Rise up, my love, my fair one, And come away. **11** For lo, the winter is past, The rain is over and gone. **12** The flowers appear on the earth; The time of singing has come, And the voice of the turtledove Is heard in our land. **13** The fig tree puts forth her green figs, And the vines with the tender grapes give a good smell. Rise up, my love, my fair one, And come away!"

**These verses depict the relationship between Jesus, the Bridegroom, and the Church, His bride.*

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Verse 10: What is the motivation of Jesus here, as He speaks to His bride? He calls her UP out of her present condition and point of view... He wants her to Himself!

The Lord Jesus is truly the Lover of our souls. He is the only One who satisfies our longings, and the only One who completely covers and protects us. He is focused continuously on being with the bride, and He actively calls us into His company, so that He may impart His unending love to us.

From what is the Lord calling me to rise up? Is anything holding me down or blurring my senses?

Take a moment... Read the **23rd Psalm** with new eyes, to see Jesus as the One who leads us into rest, provision and protection by His gentle but strong hand... because He wants to have us to Himself!

Verse 11: He calls us to rise up and come away so He can show us what is really occurring.

Often we're too close to a thing, and need to step back to clearly perceive what it is. When Jesus calls us to Himself for deeper intimacy, He also shows us our lives and surroundings through HIS eyes! What may look barren and cold and quite hopeless will suddenly look promising and fruitful when we see it through HIS eyes. The winter is truly past for the person He refers to as His love and fair one... we know that because of who He is and what He has done for us, our lives are no longer chilled by the icy grip of sin and death. We know that, even if the world looks cold and wintry, we have our hiding place, our refuge, in Jesus. He has changed our season!

Verse 12: The Bridegroom draws the bride's attention to flowers and singing! He is truly a romantic.

Jesus says, "Now that I have you all to Myself, I want you to notice the beautiful sights, smells and sounds of our relationship." The flowers speak of new birth; the singing of renewed joy; and the turtledoves of peace and devotion. Picture this: you have run away with your Bridegroom, just the two of you... He is speaking His love to you, and you are aware of spring flowers, the sound of singing, and birds calling. What is your response?

Is there anything in my life that is worth keeping my Bridegroom waiting? Do I run to His calling heart?

Verse 13: In this verse, the Bridegroom points out the promise of spiritual bounty in our lives... green figs, tender grapes, good smells. It's like a travel brochure! And He concludes His invitation as He began it : "Rise up, my love, my fair one, and come away!"

With the stunning descriptions that grace this verse, as the previous verses, Jesus demonstrates His active passion for us to share in absolutely everything He has to offer, the full inheritance. He wants us to realize that there is no lack whatsoever in our lives when they are found solely in HIM. And when God repeats Himself in His Word, we need to take notice. The Lord's "pet" names for us spoken yet again, as well as His urgent request to come away with Him speak to us of His eternal, passionate commitment to His bride. Let us be so true to HIM!

I will rise up and come away with my Beloved Lord as a lifestyle, not a sporadic event. He alone satisfies!