

## **Song of Solomon 2:8-17**

**Song of Solomon 2:8-10 Look! Listen!  
There's my lover! Do you see him coming?  
Vaulting the mountains, leaping the hills.  
My lover is like a gazelle, graceful; like a  
young stag, virile. Look at him there, on  
tiptoe at the gate, all ears, all eyes - ready!  
My lover has arrived and he is speaking to  
me! (The Message)**

The verses above capture the experience of falling in love. The young woman's attention is riveted by every action taken, every move made, every possibility suggested by her young man. And, the young man has more power and energy than even seems possible. He has become a superman, intent on only one thing - winning the love and commitment of his young woman, his chosen one.

If you have been in love then you know how powerful and even overwhelming the experience can be. People who are in love resonate light and life. A man in love is more handsome, has more energy, and he is completely focused on that one who has become the object of his affections. When a woman falls in love she becomes her most beautiful self. She glows with excitement. Her love is beyond containment and spills over and into the lives of others. We think

often of this kind of love as an experience of just the young but it is not. It can happen at any stage of life.

The young man's words come from his awakened heart. It is spring time. The season represents the awesomeness of all he feels. "Spring flowers are in blossom all over. The whole world's a choir - and singing! Spring warblers are filling the forest with sweet arpeggios. Lilacs are exuberantly purple and perfumed, and cherry trees fragrant with blossoms." (The Message) He seeks to persuade his young woman to give in to love and to join him in hearing and seeing and feeling with him, for all of this is about her, inspired by her and focused on her.

She replies with a condition, "Then you must protect me from the foxes, foxes on the prowl..." His response was apparently assuring and confident for the two come together, "My lover is mine and I am his. Nightly he strolls in our garden, delighting in its flowers until dawn breathes its light and night slips away..." She delights in him as he does in her.

Our passage is suggestive of the possibilities and opportunities found in loving and being loved by God. Take the gifts and blessings that God has given you in a personal way.

Discover beauty and recognize it as more than just what happens to be but as God's gift to you in this moment and at this particular place. Speak to God as you would to a lover, "You brought me here to show me this?" James had the right idea, "Every desirable and beneficial gift comes out of heaven. The gifts are rivers of light cascading down from the Father of Light." Psalms 19 is another scripture that expresses the pure delight of love for a God who is the source of all that is good and wholesome and joyous in our lives.

Walk with Adam and Eve in the garden. Discover there every unique and delightful expression of God's creative genius. Hear the voice of God speak, "I made it all for you." Touch a fern. Smell a rose. Lay on a fragrant bed of pine needles. Listen to morning bird songs. Taste the fruit of each newly discovered tree and plant. Call the happy, friendly and slobbery animal that keeps following you around - dog and the playful and elusive animal that unpredictably decides when and where it can be touched - cat. Listen for the voice of God when He comes in the cool of the evening and run to Him. Let the events and discoveries of the day spill out for He delights in your voice as you do in His. Know that all you have is His gift to you.

