

Finding Mr. Right Song of Solomon 1:1-8

The text mentions two characteristics of attractiveness that can be found in every Christian.

I. **There was Physical Attraction (Outward)**

- A. She found him physically appealing. (v.2-3a)

II. **Spiritual Attraction (Inward)**

- A. She found his character as equally appealing as his physical attributes (v.3b)
- a. Requires biblical discernment- What kind of character is to be valued? (Prov. 2:6-8, 10:9, 12:4)
 - “According to Scripture, virtually everything that truly qualifies a person for leadership is directly related to character. It’s not about style, status, personal charisma, clout, or worldly measurements of success. Integrity is the main issue that makes the difference between a good leader and a bad one.”
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 - b. Requires observation of the person’s attitudes and actions- How does a person respond to the issues of life? Consider observable responses:
 1. Behavior in stressful conditions- How does this person act when pressed upon? (anger, withdraws, vindictive, seek revenge)
 2. One’s Reputation- How do other Christians view this person?
 3. Obedient to authority- How do people respond to those in authority over them?
- B. She found her value in her obedience (v.5-6)
- “We have other examples of hardworking women in the Scripture.” Ruth was a gleaner, Rachael was a shepherd, Zipporah was a shepherd and the woman in Proverbs 31 “strengthens her arms.” I tell young men routinely, “Marry a girl with some grit in her!”²
- C. She had a genuine desire to be with the man she loved (v.7-8)
- “A more literal rendering might be, “whom my soul (my inner being) loves.” Here the young woman mentally addresses Solomon, her husband. She pictures him as the shepherd of Israel. one who veils herself: Solomon, as king, was busy with affairs of state. The young bride does not want to veil herself as a prostitute would in order to get his attention, nor does she want to be left alone. She desires to be his true companion.”³
 - “The palace women, in response to her question, appear to say that she must just go and hunt for him—follow the sheep and you will find the shepherd. The main thrust of the whole paragraph speaks of both character and desire. She is a totally

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lovely person in that she is not afraid of hard work even if it spoils her body. And her one desire is for her royal lover.”⁴

Points to Ponder:

1. Don't assume the world's standards in beauty. Outward beauty is fleeting but godly character endures.
2. There is nothing wrong with singleness or marriage but if you want to be married then be a person worthy of marriage.
3. Do not consider marrying a person who is not a Christian. Opposing worldviews will ultimately cause conflict.

¹ Pamela Williams quoting John MacArthur, Bible Verses About Integrity: 20 Important Scripture Quotes. Accessed February 24, 2018. <https://www.whatchristianswanttoknow.com/bible-verses-about-integrity-20-important-scripture-quotes/#ixzz582VYv2zc>.

² Tommy Nelson, *The Book of Romance: What Solomon Says About Love, Sex, and Intimacy* (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1998), 14.

³ Earl D. Radmacher, Ronald Barclay Allen, and H. Wayne House, *Nelson's New Illustrated Bible Commentary* (Nashville: T. Nelson Publishers, 1999), 795.

⁴ John A. Balchin, "The Song of Songs," in *New Bible Commentary: 21st Century Edition*, ed. D. A. Carson et al., 4th ed. (Leicester, England; Downers Grove, IL: Inter-Varsity Press, 1994), 621.

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