

Song of Solomon

A love song

Cultural preface:

God's intent and design – Genesis 2:18-25

Generally:

It is heterosexual – male and female – Gen. 1:27

It is monogamous – 1 male and 1 female – Gen. 2:25 –“they were both...”

Specifically:

It fills a social need - “It is not good that the man should be alone...”

It prevents perversion - “...but for Adam there was not found a help meet for him.”

It is intimate - “...and they shall be one flesh.”

God's intent and design ignored

Homosexuality

It is perverse – Romans 1:26-27

It is punishable sin – I Cor. 6:9

It is specifically mentioned as an abomination – Lev. 18:22

Polygamy

It is immoral – I Cor. 7:2

It is outside of godly norms – Eph. 5:33

It is excessive – Prov. 18:22

Adultery

It is anything outside of marriage as God established it – I Cor. 7:2

It is often caused by divorce – Matt. 19:3-9

It is rampant in our society – (One online study states at least 70% of all Americans cheat in the course of their marital lifetime.)

The repercussions of sexuality: - Prov. 5

Cursing in sinfulness – vs. 1-14

Blessing in godliness – vs. 15-23

About the book:

Interpretive ideas:

1. Dramatic – an ancient Hebrew play
2. Typological – the lovers picture Christ and His church
3. Cultic – a Hebrew adaptation of the pagan Mesopotamian fertility liturgy
4. Wedding cycle – a collaboration of poems that picture a wedding ceremony
5. Didactic – Emphasis is on the lessons to be learned, not a factual account between two lovers
6. Allegorical – Very similar to *Typology*, this looks beyond the text at what it may be communicating by comparison
7. Literal – the sensual, even erotic expression of passion between two lovers

General content:

This book is a fabulous inclusion in Scripture to describe the passions of two lovers whose love is to be enjoyed as God intended. In a world where the blessings of holiness in sexuality have been forfeited for the sake of assumed pleasure in popular perspective, this book renews perspective on this sacred topic.