



## 5 MINUTE LESSONS ON THE KINGDOM OF GOD

# The Old Man & His Girlfriend

In some sense there is a message behind this message of someone who desires to be loved and cared for. King Solomon says this,

*<sup>9</sup>Two people are better off than one, for they can help each other succeed. <sup>10</sup>If one person falls, the other can reach out and help. But someone who falls alone is in real trouble. <sup>11</sup>Likewise, two people lying close together can keep each other warm. But how can one be warm alone? <sup>12</sup>A person standing alone can be attacked and defeated, but two can stand back-to-back and conquer.”*  
(Ecclesiastes 4:9-12a New Living Translation)

When I was young I was working in a nursing facility in Tulsa, Oklahoma. We had a cantankerous old man in the nursing home. Each day when this pretty young nurse (actually a nurse's aid) would come in, she would give this old man a kiss on the lips. This settled him right down.

The Bible tells us,

*“...for the Lord seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart.”* (1 Samuel 16:7)

Even this 30 year old computer and printer I am using today is saying, “Will it be you or me that is going first?” Youth is gone, pleasures of life are gone, strength is gone.

I thought it was interesting that God gave King David a young virgin wife to comfort and keep him warm in his old age, although he had no sexual relationship with her. Lets read about it:

*<sup>1</sup>King David was now very old, and no matter how many blankets covered him, he could not keep warm. <sup>2</sup>So his advisers told him, ‘Let us find a young virgin to wait on you and look after you, my lord. She will lie in your arms and keep you warm.’*

*<sup>3</sup>So they searched throughout the land of Israel for a beautiful girl, and they found Abishag from Shunem and brought her to the king. <sup>4</sup>The girl was very beautiful, and she looked after the king and took care of him. But the king had no sexual relations with her.*

*<sup>15</sup>So Bathsheba went into the king's bedroom. (He was very old now, and Abishag was taking care of him.) <sup>16</sup>Bathsheba bowed down before the king.”*  
(1 Kings 1:1-4; 15 New Living Translation)

As we age our need for love is still strong, but it changes from season to season: from physical, emotional, companionship, to care taker and then death.

There is “a time to be born and a time to die” (Ecclesiastes 3:2), but you will not know this until you have walked the path of life and into the doorway of death. I had an older gentleman send me an email stating that if you took the world’s population and averaged the longevity of life, that it would be only around 61. The gentleman was in his eighties that sent me this email. I wrote back and said, “It sounds like we need to prepare ourselves to meet God.” Have you prepared your heart to meet the Lord?

## Questions

- 1 Love is as strong as \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2 God’s love is as strong as \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3 What can separate us from God’s love?
- 4 Many waters cannot quench \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5 Will you receive the love God showed you at the cross and turn your life to Him?

### **We want to hear from you!**

We would love to hear your feedback on these lessons and how you use them in your own study or in discipling others. If you have any thoughts, stories, testimonies, comments, or questions we would love to hear them!

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## Answer Key

**1** Love is as strong as death.

***“<sup>6</sup>Place me like a seal over your heart, like a seal on your arm. For love is as strong as death, its jealousy as enduring as the grave. Love flashes like fire, the brightest kind of flame. <sup>7</sup>Many waters cannot quench love, nor can rivers drown it. If a man tried to buy love with all his wealth, his offer would be utterly scorned.”***  
(Song of Solomon 8:6-7 New Living Translation)

**2** God’s love is as strong as death.

***“But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.”*** (Romans 5:8 New Living Translation)

**3** What can separate us from God’s love?

***“<sup>35</sup>Can anything ever separate us from Christ’s love? Does it mean he no longer loves us if we have trouble or calamity, or are persecuted, or hungry, or destitute, or in danger, or threatened with death? <sup>36</sup>(As the Scriptures say, “For your sake we are killed every day; we are being slaughtered like sheep.”) <sup>37</sup>No, despite all these things, overwhelming victory is ours through Christ, who loved us.***

***<sup>38</sup>And I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God’s love. Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither our fears for today nor our worries about tomorrow—not even the powers of hell can separate us from God’s love. <sup>39</sup>No power in the sky above or in the earth below—indeed, nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord.”***  
(Romans 8:35-39 New Living Translation)

**4** Many waters cannot quench God’s love.

***“Many waters cannot quench love, nor can rivers drown it...”***  
(Song of Solomon 8:7 New Living Translation)

**5** Will you receive the love God showed you at the cross and turn your life to Him?