



Day One: Secrets are Shared in the Secret Place

There are so many incredible aspects of the secret place – the fourth we are looking at is that it is a place of **REVELATION**.

Guess what He shares with us in the secret place?

Secrets!

The Lord has always shared secrets with His people. He shares secrets for many reasons:

- To protect us from our enemy.
- To identify hunger in people.
- To keep His strategies from the evil one.
- To work through us on this earth.
- To be our intimate friend and partner.

We've probably all known the delight of having a friend we can trust, with whom we share the most intimate thoughts of our hearts. Where do we think we got that desire from? And when someone shares a secret with us, we know that we are being entrusted with a precious part of who they are, and that their desire in choosing to share this with us is a privilege. Only friends share secrets, and Jesus is no different. He doesn't shout out His plans from the rooftops, or write His strategies on the walls. He shares them with the hearts of His intimate ones – those who seek Him out and who will be open before Him, and delight to hear His whispers.

Amos 3:7 (ESV) *For the Lord GOD does nothing without revealing his secret to his servants the prophets.*

He has always revealed His secrets to His friends on the earth, and they have worked with Him to speak His life and His prophecies into being. We have to remember that God gave man authority to rule and reign on this earth, and once we lost it to satan, Jesus got it back for us. So God always works through people on this earth. Also, it is only Jesus' intimate lovers that will hear His voice AND His timing. For if we speak and prophesy His secrets too soon, we will reveal what He is hiding on purpose. And if He declares His intentions across the whole world, not only will we know, but so too will our enemy. Just



think about it! The Bible says that if Satan had realised God's plan, He would never have crucified Jesus!

1 Corinthians 2:8 (NIV) *None of the rulers of this age understood it, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.*

Secrets are for the protection of God's people and God's plan. And it's these secrets that are only heard by the true worshippers – those who worship in Spirit and in truth. Those who are searching and listening with their spiritual ears.

Matthew 13:3 (NLT) *That is why I use these parables, For they look, but they don't really see. They hear, but they don't really listen or understand.*

Jesus told parables, knowing that those who were truly hungry and searching would understand, and those who were simply religious or carnal would go away wondering what on earth He was talking about! He is waiting for those who are hungry, who will ask Him to, 'Draw me into Your heart and lead me out' (Song of Songs 1:4 TPT).

Once you've heard Him share things between you that no one else knows, conversations and whispers unheard of by man; once you've heard Him share secrets with you, you will know the secret place. He desires for you to commune with Him there. He is just waiting with baited breath, hoping to pour out His heart to YOU! Will you meet Him there today?

Soak Time

Do you desire to hear His secrets in the secret place? Take some time today and just be with Him and listen to what He has to say. Be expectant that He wants to share His heart with you. See Him waiting for you to be with Him, just as a friend, excitedly longing to share something intimate with you.



Day Two: A Place of Protection

The fifth aspect of the secret place is that it is a place of **PROTECTION**. No scripture shows this more beautifully than Psalm 91:1.

Psalm 91:1 (AMP) *He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High shall remain stable and fixed under the shadow of the Almighty [Whose power no foe can withstand].*

Psalm 121 (AMP) *I will lift up my eyes to the hills...From whence shall my help come? My help comes from the Lord, Who made heaven and earth. He will not allow your foot to slip or to be moved; He Who keeps you will not slumber. Behold, He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep. The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade on your right hand [the side not carrying a sword]. The sun shall not smite you by day, nor the moon by night. The Lord will keep you from all evil; He will keep your life. The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and forevermore.*

Who shall we fear when we are with Him?!?!?

Psalm 56:11 (NASB) *In God I have put my trust, I shall not be afraid. What can man do to me?*

When we live with Jesus in the secret place, we are sitting together with Him in the King's marriage-carriage! Consider how it is described in Song of Songs:

Song of Songs 3:7 - 11 (TPT) *Look! It is the King's marriage-carriage! The love-seat surrounded by sixty champions - the mightiest of Israel's host like pillars of protection. They are angelic warriors standing ready with swords to defend the King and His fiancé from every terror of the night. The King made this mercy seat for Himself out of the finest wood that will not decay. Pillars of smoke, like silver mist - a canopy of golden glory dwells above it. The place where they sit together is sprinkled with crimson. Love and mercy cover this carriage, blanketing His tabernacle-throne. The King Himself has made it for those who will become His bride! Rise up Zion maidens, brides-to-be! Come and feast your eyes on this King as He passes in procession on His way to His wedding!...*

We sit in rest with Him because we are safe with Him. He protects us as the mightiest force on this planet, and He gives us discernment to be in the right place at the right time and to avoid the evil plans satan may have for us.



I remember hearing a testimony from Jim Richards about when he was driving with his family on the way to their holiday. He has five children and some of them were travelling in the vehicle behind. The children that were in the car with him were being very rowdy, but he purposed to stay at peace and rest and the Holy Spirit showed him a vision. He saw himself driving along the road and a man in a vehicle from the opposite direction veered into his lane on the highway. In the vision, Jim swerved, and the car hit the vehicle behind him and he heard the words 'All killed'. He felt strongly to pray in the spirit and continued praying and driving. About 45minutes later, this exact event began to play out. An oncoming car drifted into his lane, but Jim knew that he was not to swerve. He stayed his course and the car came so close that he saw the man's eyes open from his sleep with a startle right before he yanked the steering wheel and got over into the correct lane. Because Jim chose to abide in peace, the Holy Spirit was able to warn Jim and keep his family safe and protected through revelation.

Song of Songs 7:4 (TPT) ...Such great discernment now surrounds you, protecting you from the enemy's advance.

If we are too busy running or we are not familiar with His voice, we will not hear or heed His warnings meant to give us discernment and protect us. Let's abide in the secret place with Him!

Soak Time

Read the 91st Psalm in its entirety and as you do, see yourself hidden in the shadow of His wings as He protects you. How do you feel?



Day Three: A Place of Conception

The secret place is a place of **CONCEPTION**. It is the place where the Holy Spirit conceives in us the seeds of destiny, purpose and fruitfulness that will yield the harvest He intends. As He whispers to us and we agree with His whispers and our will and faith comes into alignment with what He has said, Divine conception takes place. Just as in the marriage chamber conception takes place, so too is the secret place as a place of intimacy where conception occurs in our hearts. Everything that we are going to see in our destinies and our world, must first be conceived in our hearts by the Holy Spirit.

He intends for us to live a life of continual conceiving, birthing and nurturing. This is the cycle of fruitfulness. We see this cycle in the journey of the Shulamite woman throughout the Song of Songs, who goes from being the Shulamite woman to the Bride, to the one birthing sons and daughters.

Song of Songs 7:2 - 3 (TPT) *Within your womb there is a birthing of harvest-wheat; They are the sons and daughters who will be nurtured by the purity you impart.*

When we live in the secret place – the chamber of the King – we will conceive, birth and be fruitful. When we stay in the secret place, we will no longer abort what has been conceived within us.

Have you ever felt barren before? For me, I lived in a continual condition of barrenness and the shame that comes with it. I had conceived many things in my own strength but found that when they were birthed they were weak and died. It was like I literally felt I could not birth anything of spiritual and eternal worth. But I discovered the exciting news that there is a place of no barrenness. There's a place of life. It's the secret place. It's the place of conceiving. It's the place of nurturing. And it's the place of birthing. If we will stay in it and live from it, we'll never know barrenness again!

Life comes from the secret place. There is no life until it is conceived by the Holy Spirit. THE SECRET PLACE IS THE ONLY SOURCE OF LIFE.

We are all like Mary. Only the seeds conceived here will grow and birth and thrive. Let the Holy Spirit plant seeds in you. Let yourself co-create together with Him and let everything else fall by the wayside and die. For nothing birthed by any other means will truly live.



If it is not birthed in intimacy with my King in the secret place, it will not live.

And if it will not live, it is not worth pursuing. So for every project we are considering, every word we want to write or say, every vision we are seeing, the question to ask ourselves is this:

Q: Was it conceived by the Holy Spirit in the secret place?

Just as the Israelites did not move until the cloud or the pillar of fire moved, neither are we to move until this conception has taken place.

Exodus 40:36 (AMP) *In all their journeys, whenever the cloud was taken up from over the tabernacle, the Israelites went onward; But if the cloud was not taken up, they did not journey on till the day that it was taken up.*

Only we don't need to see a cloud or a pillar of fire... it's when we hear His voice in our hearts that we know it's time to move, and not before.

Song of Songs 7:11 – 12 (TPT) *Come away, my Lover, Come with me to the far away fields.*

Soak Time

How much of what you are currently trying to birth was conceived in the secret place? And how much of it was conceived in your strength? Is it time to lay down anything in your life? What do you feel the Holy Spirit want to conceive and birth in you?



Day Four: Yours Alone to Share With Him

So we've seen that the secret place is a place of rest, intimacy, confidence, revelation, protection and conception. When we are experiencing these aspects, we know that we're in the secret place, where the Presence of God dwells. But what, actually, does it look like?

You see, we're not physically going anywhere. While there may be a specific place in which we like to spend time with the Lord, it's never about what's going on externally, but it's always about what is going on internally because our secret place is where we meet with Jesus in our heart. We can't see it with our physical eyes, but we can see it with our spiritual eyes. God created us with an imagination and it is a powerful tool which can build an inner awareness of our God-connection within.

The Bible describes the inner tabernacle of our heart in so many ways. In the message, *She Wears White*, we saw the correlation between the tabernacle and our hearts. The tabernacle contained intricate tapestries, cherubim, and significant golden objects, but God said in the new covenant our hearts are the tabernacle. Our hearts have also been described as treasures and precious jewels and stones.

2 Corinthians 4:7 (NKJV) *But we have this treasure in earthen vessels...*

Malachi 3:17 (NKJV) *They shall be mine, says the Lord of hosts, on the day that I make them My jewels...*

And in Song of Songs, their secret place was described as both a cloud-filled chamber and a secret garden of delight.

Song of Songs 1:14 (TPT) *Draw me into Your heart and lead me out, we will run away together – into Your cloud-filled chamber!*

Song of Songs 4:12 (TPT) *My darling Bride, My private paradise fastened to my heart. A secret spring are you that no one else can have – my bubbling fountain hidden from public view.*

Song of Songs 6:3 (TPT) *He is within me – I am His garden of delight. I have Him fully and now He fully has me!*



In other words, the secret place can look like anything you feel is right and brings peace and joy to your soul. In fact, you may already know what it looks like. As you've been doing the soak time activities in this devotional, where have you been in your imagination? What have you seen with your spiritual eyes?

For me, when I first desired to meet with Jesus in my heart and closed my eyes, I immediately saw myself with Him on a seat under a beautiful flowering tree, in a grass-covered area on top of a mountain, overlooking a spectacular view. I have a precious friend who, when she goes to her secret place, meets Jesus in a beautiful field. Everyone has a unique and personal secret place which they can see with their spiritual eyes that is beautiful to them and floods their souls with joy and peace. Where do you meet with Jesus?

You won't always see this place. Sometimes you will just sense His Presence. But when you feel to 'go' there, this will be a special place for you and Jesus alone.

Soak Time

Don't try to force it. Close your eyes and simply imagine yourself and Jesus together in a place that thrills your soul. What is the first thing you see when you close your eyes? How does this place look in your heart?

Stay there until you see Jesus there with you. Don't think about the clock or rush away. Spend time with Him there. What does He say to you?



Day Five: Life Beyond the Veil

The most beautiful part about the secret place is that there is no veil. God demonstrated His intention to never again be separated from His people when, at the moment of Jesus' death, the thick veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom.

Imagine yourself at the altar of your wedding and Jesus is your Bridegroom. You have a veil over your face, but when He turns and looks at you, He lifts the veil up and places it over your head, just as a Groom does before the minister says, "You may kiss the Bride." There is intimacy in this moment, because there is nothing between the Bride and the Groom. You can look into each other's eyes and see each other face to face. Beautiful! This is how Jesus intends for our relationship with Him to be.

2 Corinthians 3:18 (NLT) *So all of us who have had that veil removed can see and reflect the glory of the Lord...*

The problem is that as soon as that veil is removed... as soon as we can see His face clearly and there is nothing between us, satan works as hard as he can to have us pull the veil back down by drawing us back into our old lives and ways of thinking. He wants us to be looking through veils, trying to see our Bridegroom but getting a distorted view. Here are some of the veils that can exist in our lives:

The Veil of Running (Busyness)

How easy it is to go from standing at the altar looking into the eyes of our Bridegroom King, to running again and believing that this is showing love to Him. In Luke 10:38 – 42, Mary wanted to look in His face, but Martha thought her running was loving Him. However Jesus told Martha that only one thing was needed and that Mary had chosen what was better. When we try to see Jesus while running, we will not see Him clearly – we will see only a veil.

The irony of it all is that usually all of our running is a result of trying to birth and nurture things that were never conceived by the Holy Spirit in the secret place to begin with. Stop! Look into His face. When your running holds no sense of security or identity for you and all of your identity comes from the love that you see emanating from His eyes towards you, you'll never want to lift that veil and take off again!



The Veil of Religion

Religion is a thief – when it's all boiled down, religion is specific moulds and theologies that give us rules or 'philosophies' that are ways of thinking and doing things. We approach certain situations or certain scriptures with our religious ways in our minds rather than looking Jesus in the eyes and hearing and doing exactly what He says. How many times have you made a choice based on something you've always believed, or the way things are done in your church, without even so much as consulting your King about how He would have you do it? Religion tells us that there is only option A, or possibly at a stretch Option A & Option B. But Jesus has ways of doing things that are so expansive, we might never be able to even conceive them without His whispers. We are created to be one heart with Him, but any time we make a decision based on religious thinking and beliefs rather than direct interaction with our King, we are placing a veil between Jesus and us. Are our hearts submitted only to Him, or are they submitted to the religious structures, ideas, ways of doing things that we've embraced? Are we allowing Him to direct how He wants us to do things in this moment, or are we holding onto what feels familiar to us?

Some denominations believe, for example, that we should always submit to our spiritual leaders and do exactly what they say, regardless of how we feel about it. The Bible says to submit to one another, so submission is not necessarily wrong. But if we do what someone else says without reservation, we've believed that someone else is more qualified to hear from Jesus about our lives than we are, and that leader becomes the veil between us and Jesus because we are no longer going directly to Him, but are trying to reach him through someone else. You could call that an idol.

Many leaders are beautiful and spirit-filled people who are a valuable part of our spiritual progress, and such leaders encourage people to go directly to Jesus. However, many are more interested in filling positions and getting jobs done rather than valuing the importance of Holy Spirit conception in the secret place. People who submit to this end up trying to birth Ishmaels while aborting their Isaacs. Some leaders are also insecure and when they see people going forward in intimacy with God that exceeds what they know and have experienced, they will find fault with it in order to defend their own position. Sometimes we will never encounter Jesus until we go further than the spiritual leaders around us. We see two examples of this in the Song of Songs:



- In Song of Songs 3:3 - 4 while she was looking for her Bridegroom-King, she encountered the overseers (representative of the spiritual leaders of the church) and only found Him *'when I moved past them.*
- In Song of Songs 5:7 when she was again looking for her Bridegroom-King, the same overseers actually beat her and bruised her *'until I could take no more'*, and removed their "covering" from her.

There are, quite simply, some foundations we need to re-build. Our relationship with Jesus is between Jesus and ourselves – no one else is responsible for it. Let's discard the veil of religion and see Him face to face.

The Veil of the Old Man

Satan wants to keep us looking in the mirror of our old man rather than the mirror of the Word of God which tells us who our new man now is in Christ Jesus. He wants to shackle and bind us to our old identity.

We must remember that our old man is dead and our new man is within us and is alive to God. The quickest way satan will get us looking again at the old man, is in trying to deal with our problems or our sins. Yet these things become a veil and we think Jesus can't look at us without seeing them. Wrong! He sees us after the spirit, not after the flesh.

Let's remember that He's given us an exchanged life, not an improved one. When we look at Jesus face to face in that secret place, He'll deal with things in our lives that we've tried for years to accomplish in our own strength, to no avail. The most beautiful life we can have is the life of oneness with Christ, with no veils between Him and us. His face is beautiful!



Can you see any of these veils operating in your life? Will you choose to remove them and see Him face to face?
