



Day One: Ready to Arise

Last week we looked at Arising, and the moment that the Shulamite Bride knew that she was ready to arise. As she represents us, and the whole Song of Songs is an allegory about us and our relationship with Jesus, it begs the obvious question for each one of us. I took this question to the Lord and asked Him, *"How do we know when we are ready to arise?"*

His answer was immediate and clear. He said:

You are ready to arise when you can BE still and your BEing is enough.

Wow! It took me a moment, but I got it! When my flesh stopped kicking and screaming because it could no longer get its identity from DOing... when I was content to stay in the place of rest for whatever length of time God said to stay there... when I knew that I was loved and who my identity was without DOing anything... THEN I was ready and I would allow His life to arise, and to emerge from within me.

Finally, Psalm 46:10 made sense to me:

Psalm 46:10 (AMP) Let be and BE still, and know...that I am God... (capitals mine)

When just knowing Him was enough for me, I was ready to arise. And if I tried to arise (a key that I was not ready to arise) before I was at this point, I would actually limit myself. That felt like such a contradiction because I really had felt like NOT DOing was limiting myself. But in fact this is the truth when we try to arise in our own strength:

"We are limited to the best we can do instead of resting in the best He could do." Jim Richards

When we stay in the place of rest, BEing still and knowing who He is until we realise that this is enough for us, He will arise within us and DO far more through us than we could ever do for ourselves! It's actually not up to us to arise at all! It's actually simply what happens when we freely allow His Life within us to become our identity. He arises within us! It's never something we have to try to do, or work to do. It is a free gift of grace to those who simply yield up.



This was solidified by a vision a dear friend shared with me. They saw me lying down until I became limp in God's hands. It was only after I became truly limp that suddenly I was rigid again and stood up tall, being lifted by His hands. This vision absolutely paralleled what God was doing in my life. The only challenge being that it sounds easy to 'become limp' but actually, it takes more faith to 'do nothing' than to run around doing, doing, doing. It's counter-cultural to the church at large, and it's also going against the grain to many of those around us. Yet the Kingdom of God is completely opposite to this world. The world would say that if we want to live our destiny, we must do, do do, run, run, run. Jesus tells us the opposite – to rest, to lie down, to BE... and to trust Him to arise in us. It sounds crazy to our natural minds but in our hearts we know that His way is the truth.

And when she does this, that's when He says to her that she is ready to arise. And what are His immediately following words?

Song of Songs 4:8 (TPT) Come with Me...

Her real adventure now begins. And so does yours.



What does Psalm 46:10 mean to you in light of this devotional? *Let be and BE still, and know...that I am God...(AMP)*



Day Two: Come With Me

The truth is, she is one with Him – and you are too! When we arise, we're not actually doing anything differently from what we've learned in the place of rest. We're yielding and He's actually the one Who does the Doing.

Arising is simply yielding ourselves continually to our new man – to everything He is within us.

Essentially, it is living in the surrendered freedom of yielding to the Holy Spirit. And let's remind ourselves also about the true definition of 'yielding'. This word does not have a negative connotation, though it's been given one. It's not about making ourselves less so that we fulfil what is required of us. The way Jesus operates is that He tells us the beauty and the truth of who we already are – and then we YIELD UP to that truth. We simply agree with what He says about it, no matter how amazing it is, and acknowledge, agree with and align ourselves with our righteousness in Him.

So when He says to her to "*Come with Me...*," she doesn't have to jump back into the 'action mode' of her flesh. She doesn't have to conjure up anything or make anything happen. She just considers herself one with Him, and goes with Him wherever He goes and allows Him to show Himself strong through her.

Song of Songs 4:8 (TPT) ...Come with Me as we climb the highest peaks together. Come with Me through the archway of trust, We will look down from the crest of the glistening mounts and from the summit of our sublime sanctuary. Together we will wage war...

It's an invitation to live from the mountaintops with Him! The place where it's already all been accomplished, and there's no force in it - simply rest and oneness with Him. The biggest challenge is not that they will not overcome. The biggest challenge is simply whether she will believe what He says about who she is... will she really continue to believe that she is one with Him and that His life flows through her?

When He speaks truth to her, will she believe it? He says, "*For you reach into My heart. With one flash of your eyes I am undone by your love, My beloved one, My equal, My bride. You leave me breathless – I am overcome by merely a glance from your worshipping eyes and you have stolen My heart. I'm held*



hostage by your love and by the graces of Righteousness upon you! How satisfying to Me, My equal, My bride. Your love is My finest wine...” (Song of Songs 4:9 – 10 TPT). Can she receive it as truth? And when He tells her shortly afterward that He finds the Promised Land flowing within her and that her inward life is sprouting and bringing forth fruit, will she receive it?

This is the place where many of us crack – we refuse to believe the truth that He speaks about us, and by doing so, we automatically refuse to believe that we are one with Him because the truth about us comes from the fact that His Life flows through us and that we are righteous IN HIM. If we reject this, what does that say about how we view our oneness with Him and the righteousness that He died to give us?

What does the Shulamite do?



How did you feel when you read Song of Songs 4:9 – 10 (TPT)? Did you feel like ‘cracking?’ Were you tempted to reject the truth He speaks about you or did you joyously receive it as truth? Why?



Day Three: I Have Gathered

The wonderful news is that she doesn't crack - not when He tells her how beautiful she is to Him... not when He tells her that He sees His life flowing through her.

And then the most challenging words of all. He tells her that HER life gives life to HIM!

Song of Songs 4:15 (TPT) *Your life flows into Mine, pure as a garden spring – A well of living water springs up from within you. You are like a mountain brook flowing into My heart!*

It's one thing for Him to tell us that He is a well of living water within us which blesses us! It's another thing altogether for Him to tell us that we are so one with Him that the living water which flows from within us, actually flows into His heart and blesses HIM!

If you're going to crack at something, that will be the point! But if you are willing to receive this as truth, nothing can trip you up!

What does the Shulamite Bride do? Does she argue it with a false humility? Does she reject it because her sense of worth can't receive it? No, not at all! Our formerly rejected, 'dark and unworthy' Shulamite Bride receives every word and YIELDS UP to all He is saying, with the most amazing prayer:

Song of Songs 4:16 – 5:1 (TPT) *Then may Your awakening breath blow upon my life until I am fully Yours. Breathe upon me with Your Spirit-winds. Stir up the sweet spice of Your life within me. Spare nothing as You make me Your fruit-filled garden, Hold nothing back until I release Your fragrance. Come walk with me as You walked with Adam in Your paradise-garden. Come taste the very fruits of Your life in me.*

She is saying, 'I agree with everything You say. I am one with You and You are one with Me. Consume everything within me that is not of You. Make me completely Yours.' This is a prayer of oneness. She will go with Him wherever He goes. She will believe whatever He says about her.

And she does! She doesn't argue with Him from this point on... she just keeps moving forward. And how does her life immediately start to look from this



moment? Fruitful. His life flows through her in an effortless and natural way. We hear nothing about her striving from the moment of this prayer onwards... instead, we immediately see Him gathering from her life.

Song of Songs 5:1 (TPT) *I have gathered from your heart, My equal, My bride, I have gathered from My garden all my sacred spices – even My myrrh! I have tasted and enjoyed My wine within you. I have tasted with pleasure My pure milk, My honeycomb which you yield to Me. I delight in gathering My sacred spice, All the fruits of My life I have gathered from within you, My paradise-garden!...*

And what is she doing all of this time? Absolutely nothing! She is simply BEing and allowing this fruit of His life flow through her!

Soak Time

Re-read Song of Songs 5:1 (TPT). See yourself in this scripture – Jesus gathering His Life from your heart and being absolutely blessed and satisfied by it. Meditate on this as truth for you by dwelling on it, seeing it, and asking Holy Spirit to reveal His perspective of you through it. What effect does this have on you?



Day Four: Life-Union Fruitfulness

Yesterday we saw the Shulamite becoming fruitful as she simply rested and allowed His life to flow through her. Without effort and force on her behalf, the Bridegroom-King was able to gather from her life. Yet this is not specific to the Song of Songs... it is a Biblical principle that we see throughout the Bible and it's an invitation for each and every one of us:

John 15:4 – 5 (TPT) *So step into life-union with Me, for I have stepped into life union with you. For as a branch severed from the vine will not bear fruit, so your life will be fruitless unless you live your life intimately joined to Mine...As you live in union with Me as your source, fruitfulness will stream from within you.*

We are invited to 'step into' life-union with Him. Note there's no other requirement – no works, no efforts, no force needed. It's an already done deal that we get to step into – if we choose to! And it has everything to do with how we see ourselves. If we do not see ourselves as one with Him, we must see ourselves as severed from this vine and we will not bear fruit. But if we see ourselves as a branch joined to the vine of His life, there is absolutely no other outcome other than our fruitfulness... without force, without effort, and as a natural result of our BEing.

This more than likely goes against how we've lived our lives and how we've seen the church at large function, yet the fruitfulness of our decision to BE still and allow Him to be God in our lives is the result. We must realise that busyness does not equal fruitfulness. His life flowing through us equals fruitfulness, from which His Kingdom grows. It says that as we live in life-union with Him, fruitfulness will automatically STREAM from within us. That's it! That's the only requirement and the only outcome! What truly amazing grace!

Galatians 3:17 (TPT) *...by constantly using your faith, the life of Christ will be released deep inside you, and the resting place of his love will become the very source and root of your life, providing you with a secure foundation that grows and grows.*

The resting place of His love is where all fruitfulness comes from. Any other source may look fruitful but it's actually barrenness. The only root which



becomes the source of your life which grows and grows is the resting place of His love, where BEing is all He asks of you, so that He can live THROUGH you.

Ephesians 4:24 (TPT) And you will be transformed as you embrace the glorious Christ-within as your new life and live in union with him!

Note that it says, ‘You will be. You WILL be transformed.’ There is no question about it. Transformation is absolutely inevitable if you will BE one with Christ in His life and live in union with Him. There’s no other formula, strategy or plan that will ever transform you. Resting in the oneness of His Life within - that’s the answer! That’s the only plan, and the only way into fruitfulness, transformation and fullness of life. When we choose this, we get to live out our destiny...



Consider John 15:4 – 5 (TPT). Have you seen yourself as severed from the vine – trying to make things happen in your own effort and unable to receive the truth of your righteousness and your oneness with Him? Or have you seen yourself as having already stepped into life-union with Him? What does the fruitfulness (without force) of your life say about whether you have stepped into life-union with Him?

If you have not already done so, are you ready to step into life-union with Jesus? You can do so right now, by faith and declaration. See it and believe it.



Day Five: Live From Within

Jesus is asking us to **Live from within**. And this means He's not asking us to do something He hasn't already done.

When Jesus came to this earth, He did so filled with the fullness of God.

Colossians 1:19 (NLT) ...God was pleased to live in Christ.

Colossians 2:9 (NLT) For in Christ lives all the fullness of God...

And now Christ is pleased to live in us in all of His fullness.

You know, even Jesus couldn't arise on His own. He came to this world filled with the fullness of God and He had to choose to allow the life of God to arise from within Him. When Jesus was facing His crucifixion, He had to trust completely in the life of God within Him to raise Him up or He was staying there! There was no other option and no other way. Jesus could not raise Himself from the dead. He could not make it happen by force or self-effort. He had to let Himself die and trust the fullness of the life of God within Him to arise, to emerge and to raise Him to life.

Galatians 1:1 (TPT) ...I was appointed by Jesus, the Anointed One, and God the Father, who raised him from the dead.

Jesus did not raise Himself from the dead. He yielded Himself up to God and God raised Him from the dead – by grace. Neither did Jesus have to crucify Himself - He simply yielded. He simply trusted. And God within Him arose!

During the timeframe that Holy Spirit was revealing this to me, I heard the words of a song which spoke about Jesus lying in the tomb, '*Messiah still and all alone.*' It hit me that Jesus had to BE still and He was ready to arise when His BEing was enough. He could do nothing – He simply had to yield and lie there BEing the son of God and the Lamb that was slain before the foundation of the world.

And He could do this because up to that point, He'd lived every day of His life that way. He knew that His identity was God-in-Him and Jesus never acted independently of the Father or did anything by His own initiative. He was content to simply BE one with His Father and Jesus only did the works that He saw His Father doing (John 5:19). And as a result, the life of God flowed



continually through Him to minister to the world around Him. And when Jesus lay still and alone, yielded in the tomb, He allowed the glory of God to flow through Him uninhibited – coming from His Spirit, through His soul and out His body - and the world saw the glory of the Lord shine from Him! This is what God means when He says to Arise! Shine!

The fullness of God was within Jesus and Jesus did not limit Him in any way. Now the fullness of Christ dwells in you and He intends His glory to shine through you. It's not just about you. It's about Him. It's about those around you. Releasing the treasure chest of glory within you is for so much more than you, just as the life of God arising in Jesus was about so much more than Him.

Will you live from within and allow the fullness of Christ to flow through you today?

Soak Time

What does it mean to you to know that Jesus is not asking you to do something that He has not already done? And that His Life in its fullness is already within you to do it? You truly can live from within.
