

# INTRODUCTION TO Song of Songs

## WHERE IS IT IN THE BIBLE?

- 19. PSALMS
- 20. PROVERBS
- 21. ECCLESIASTES
- 22. **SONG OF SONGS**
- 23. ISAIAH
- 24. JEREMIAH
- 25. LAMENTATIONS

## VARIOUS INTERPRETATIONS

- **Allegory:** Until 19<sup>th</sup> century, Christians read this book as an allegory of God’s relationship with His people.
- **Love Poem:** Today it is mostly read as a love poem that may or may not point us to a greater reality.
  - There are multiple interpretations of this book as a love poem including: Solomon and the Shulamite, and another Shepherd and the Shulamite with Solomon attempting to take the lady from the young man
  - As a love poem that both celebrates the human gift of love that God intended marriage to be and because this picture of love, marriage, and intimacy is of such perfection, the book also points our attention clearly to Christ’s love for His Church!

## KEY VERSES

- **Song of Songs 8:6-7** *“Set me as a seal on your heart, as a seal on your arm. For love is as strong as death; jealousy is as unrelenting as Sheol. Love’s flames are fiery flames—an almighty flame! A huge torrent cannot extinguish love; rivers cannot sweep it away. If a man were to give all his wealth for love, it would be utterly scorned.”*

## BASIC STRUCTURE

5 CHAPTERS OUTLINE FROM THE ESV STUDY BIBLE



## BOOK BASICS



**DATE**  
960-930 BC



**TYPE**  
Wisdom



**AUTHOR**  
See Below

Traditionally attributed to Solomon because of 1:1 – The Song of Songs, which is Solomon’s (1 Kings 4 – Solomon authored many songs); however, this could mean that Solomon wrote it OR (perhaps more likely) that it was written for/in honor of Solomon, the King.

Whether the book is authored by Solomon or not, it is most likely written in the time period of Solomon’s reign. There are references to geographical locations that are in what would be the northern kingdom of Israel after Israel’s split which happens immediately after Solomon’s death. So, most likely between 960-930BC.