



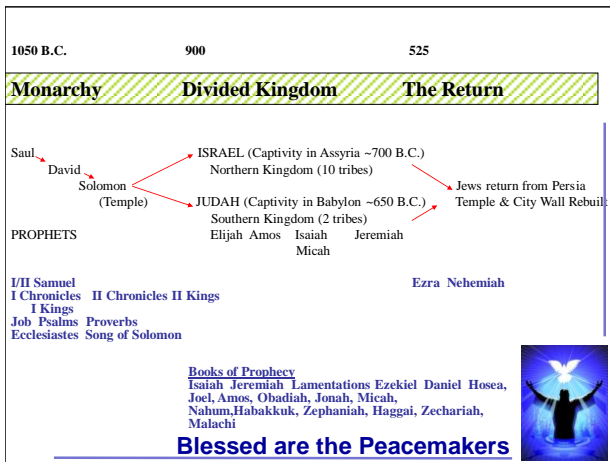


Blessed are the Peacemakers



## Old Testament 39 Books

			
<b>Pentateuch</b>	<b>History</b>	<b>Poetry</b>	<b>Prophecy</b>
Genesis Exodus Leviticus Numbers Deuteronomy	Joshua Judges Ruth 1&2 Samuel 1&2 Kings 1&2 Chronicles Ezra Nehemiah Esther	Job Psalms Proverbs Ecclesiastes Song of Solomon	Isaiah Jeremiah Lamentations Ezekiel Daniel Hosea Joel Amos Obadiah Jonah Micah Nahum Habakkuk Zephaniah Haggai Zechariah Malachi

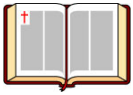


## What happened in Last week's reading

- Proverbs
  - Women and wives p. 653
  - Joy and Grief p. 657
  - Proverbs 31 wife p. 660
- Song of Solomon
  - Psalm 127 p. 661
  - Song of Songs p. 662
- Solomon's Glory Fades p. 672
- Ecclesiastes p. 674

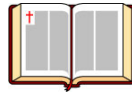


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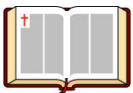
## Psalm 127

1 A song of ascents. Of Solomon. Unless the LORD builds the house, its builders labor in vain. Unless the LORD watches over the city, the watchmen stand guard in vain. 2 In vain you rise early and stay up late, toiling for food to eat-- for he grants sleep to those he loves. 3 Sons are a heritage from the LORD, children a reward from him. 4 Like arrows in the hands of a warrior are sons born in one's youth. 5 Blessed is the man whose quiver is full of them. They will not be put to shame when they contend with their enemies in the gate.



## What's It Mean?

- d. Solomon's Glory Fades – Can you think of some children of successful parents who have been a disappointment? Ruined the family business? Lived a dissipated life style? Rejected the faith of their parents?



## What's It Mean?

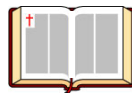
b. Song of Solomon or “The most excellent of songs” – why is this stuff in the Bible?? “The Song of Songs is an excellent example of Hebrew poetry, full of rich parallelisms and beautiful imagery from plant and animal life.”

1) The Beloved – p. 664

2) Lover – p. 666 (no eschatological significance!)



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## Possible interpretations

Allegory of sacred love between God and Israel, Christ and the Church. Each word has a specific meaning.

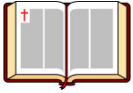
Literal - is a collection of secular love ditties with a higher spiritual meaning. Finds a picture of Christ's love for his people.

Drama – love story between Solomon and Shulammitte maid or Shulammitte maid and her shepherd that prevails over Solomon's callous attempt to bring the girl into his harem.

Love poem - Uniquely Biblical perspective on sexual love. Celebrates God's gift of bodily love between a man and a women. It is about joy rather than learning.



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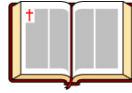


## d. Ecclesiastes

- 1) What is the meaning of life? What are the ways humans seek to make life meaningful?
- 2) The reality of life without a trusting relationship with God.
  - Life is meaningless
  - We are here by chance
  - We have no hope
  - We have no free will

3) Where life finds its meaning. (p. 689)

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## Next Week

- Ecclesiastes and the Nation is divided.

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