

# The Martin Bucer Institute for Biblical Studies

Special Session: The Song of Solomon

Lecture #2: Superlative Song

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I. Song of Songs is a superlative, analogous to Holy of Holies.

II. Analysis of 2:8-17 (or 3:5).

A. Structure.

1. Formal structure.

- voice: gazelle and stag
  - Arise, come, v 10
  - description of spring, centered in v 12b
  - Arise, come, v 13b
- gazelle and stag

2. Narrative.

- Foxes, v 15

B. Word-play.

1. Gazelle, vv 9, 17.

2. Pruning/singing, v 12b.

3. "He pastures among the lilies," v 16

C. Syntax.

1. Behold, participles, imperatives

2. Impression of immediacy (Cheryl Exum).

D. Sound, v 16a

III. Poetry enhanced by typological associations.

A. Garden, 4:12-5:1; 6:1-12

1. Orchards and vineyards.

2. Flowers, springs, trees, fruit.

3. "His desire is for me," 7:11: Restored Eden.

4. Spring: New creation.

B. Wilderness and land, 3:6-5:1.