

***THE FAIREST OF TEN THOUSAND: THE SONG OF THE SHULAMITE***  
***THE ATTRIBUTES OF JESUS IN SONG OF SOLOMON 5:10-16***  
***SESSION 4: HIS HEAD IS LIKE GOLD – THE PERFECT LEADERSHIP OF JESUS***  
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*Song of Solomon 5:11 His head is like the finest gold;*

**INTRODUCTION:**

The issue of confidence in leadership is one of the great trouble spots of contemporary culture. Human leaders have proven time and again that self-interest and political advancement is at the center of their focus, and the subsequent erosion of confidence in the hearts of followers is inevitable. The people of God long to know that there is a leader whose heart can be trusted, whose single focus is their well-being and fulfillment. This session is focused on the leadership of Jesus, who perfectly fulfills this desire that lives in our hearts.

**I. THE METAPHOR – HIS HEAD IS LIKE GOLD**

A. “Head” in the Scriptures

1. The “head” in Scripture signifies a number of things:
  - a. The head is illustrative of God (1 Cor 11:3),
  - b. of Christ (11:3; Eph 1:22; Col 2:19),
  - c. of rulers (1 Sam 15:17; Dan 2:38),
  - d. of chief men (Isa 9:14-15);
  - e. of the chief city of a kingdom (7:8).
2. *According to Scripture the head is the noblest part of man. Because the human organism culminates in the head, Christ is called the "head of the church"; and for the same reason the head is the general metaphorical designation of him who is most exalted, the most excellent, the chief.* (from The New Unger's Bible Dictionary. Originally published by Moody Press of Chicago, Illinois. Copyright (c) 1988.)

B. Gold that is precious and refined

1. *Hebrew word is “paz”, which signifies pure or refined gold. This noun occurs in Ps 19:10; 21:3; 119:127; Prov 8:19; Song 5:11; Isa 13:12; and Lam 4:2. It is usually rendered "fine gold," "much fine gold," etc. In Ps 19:10 the familiar line of Watts "gold that has the furnace passed" is probably exact.* (from The New Unger's Bible Dictionary. Originally published by Moody Press of Chicago, Illinois. Copyright (c) 1988.)
2. This refining speaks of a process of qualification that validates leadership.

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## II. JESUS AS THE PERFECT LEADER

### A. His leadership formed in the crucible of obedience – Hebrews 5:5-10

*Hebrews 5:5–9 So also Christ did not glorify Himself to become High Priest, but it was He who said to Him: “You are My Son, Today I have begotten You.” . . . 7 who, in the days of His flesh, when He had offered up prayers and supplications, with vehement cries and tears to Him who was able to save Him from death, and was heard because of His godly fear, 8 though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience by the things which He suffered. 9 And having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him . . .*

1. He came in the “days of His flesh”
2. He connected with the Father as we do – prayers, supplications, vehement cries and tears
3. He was heard but not delivered
4. He was perfected through obedience – demonstrated character
5. He endured through deepest pain and sorrow
6. He was qualified as an excellent leader

### B. Implied understanding of God’s ways and means – Hebrews 6:13-20

*Hebrews 6:13–20 For when God made a promise to Abraham, because He could swear by no one greater, He swore by Himself, 14 saying, “Surely blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply you.” 15 And so, after he had patiently endured, he obtained the promise. . . . 17 Thus God, determining to show more abundantly to the heirs of promise the immutability of His counsel, confirmed it by an oath, 18 that by two immutable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we might have strong consolation, . . . 19 This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which enters the Presence behind the veil, 20 where the forerunner has entered for us, even Jesus, having become High Priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.*

1. Understands role as Forerunner for Bridal intimacy
2. Willfully chooses to live out the history already written for Him – Hebrews 10:5-7 “a body prepared”
3. Combination of sovereignty and choice

### C. Full submission to Father’s strategies

1. Psalm 31:5; Luke 23:46 – “into Your hands”

2. 1 Peter 2:23 – “committed Himself to Him who judges righteously”
3. Acts 7:59 – “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit”

### III. JESUS AS THE PERFECT MODEL OR SOURCE

- A. Fully lives out the Father’s purposes – Hebrews 10:5-7 (Psalm 40:6-8)

***Hebrews 10:5–7 Therefore, when He came into the world, He said: “Sacrifice and offering You did not desire, But a body You have prepared for Me. 6 In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin You had no pleasure. 7 Then I said, ‘Behold, I have come— In the volume of the book it is written of Me— To do Your will, O God.’ ”***

1. Sacrifice is not the point
2. A Body you have prepared for me
3. I have come to do Your will

- B. Carries us with Him in the journey – Romans 5:6-19

***Romans 5:16, 19 And the gift is not like that which came through the one who sinned. For the judgment which came from one offense resulted in condemnation, but the free gift which came from many offenses resulted in justification. . . .19 For as by one man’s disobedience many were made sinners, so also by one Man’s obedience many will be made righteous.***

- C. Calls us to follow in our own choices

1. Learn to love His ways – Psalm 119:165
2. Embrace every event as a gift of love
  - a. kiss of affection – Song of Solomon 1:2-4
  - b. training in warfare – Psalm 144:1-2
  - c. fellowship of sufferings – Philippians 3:10
    - Matthew 20:23 – “You will indeed drink My cup . . .”
    - Romans 6:3 – “. . . baptized into His death.”
    - Romans 8:17 – “. . . joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him.”
    - 2 Corinthians 1:5 – “as the sufferings of Christ abound in us . . .”
    - Galatians 2:20 – “I have been crucified with Christ . . .”

- Colossians 1:24 – “. . . fill up in my flesh what is lacking in the afflictions of Christ . . .”
- 1 Peter 4:13-14 – “rejoice to the extent that you partake of Christ’s sufferings . . .”

3. Live free of offense – Matthew 11:6

#### **IV. THE ROOT-SYSTEM OF CONFIDENCE IN GOD’S LEADERSHIP – PSALM 32**

A. The joy of forgiveness experienced – v. 1-5

1. The agony of unconfessed sin
2. The joy of confession and forgiveness – Hebrew word for “forgiveness” means “to take up and send away.” Similar in Greek.

B. The safety of God’s presence – v. 6-7

1. Prayer as a means of entering this safety
2. Protection in difficulty
3. Songs of deliverance

C. Confidence in the guidance of the Lord – v. 8-11

1. The promise of God’s faithful guidance – “his eye upon us”
2. Exhortation to submit to God’s ways – no stubbornness
3. Mercy and joy for those who enter that confidence

#### **CONCLUSION:**

Because of who Jesus is, and what He has endured, He has been established as a trustworthy leader. He has walked the same path to which He calls us, taking us with Him as the prototype of a new humanity. Therefore, we can embrace our own journey as a gift from God, a context in which to show His glory as the One who redeems our soul, turns our ashes into beauty, and glorifies us to bring glory to His Name.