

Song of Solomon 8:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

I would lead thee, and bring thee into my mother's house, who would instruct me: I would cause thee to drink of spiced wine of the juice of my pomegranate.

Analysis

I would lead thee, and bring thee into my mother's house, who would instruct me (אָנְהַגְגְּ אַבִּיאָךְ אֶל־בֵּית אִמִּי תִלְמַדְנִי)—the bride imagines bringing her beloved to her mother's house, a place of safety, intimacy, and instruction. The Hebrew enhaghakha (אָנְהַגְגְּ, I would lead you) and avi'akha (אַבִּיאָךְ, I would bring you) show active initiative. 'My mother's house' represents intimacy and domestic privacy. The phrase telammedeni (תִּלְמַדְנִי, she would instruct me) suggests the mother teaching the bride about love and marriage.

I would cause thee to drink of spiced wine of the juice of my pomegranate (אֶשְׁקֶךָ מִיַּן הַרְקָח מְעֻסָּים רִמְנִי)—the bride offers her beloved the choicest refreshment: spiced wine (yayin hareqach, יַיִן הַרְקָח, blended/spiced wine) and pomegranate juice. This continues the garden/fruit/wine imagery throughout the Song, celebrating sensory delight and generous hospitality. The bride actively serves and delights her beloved. Church tradition saw the mother's house as the Church teaching believers, and the spiced wine as spiritual nourishment offered through ministry.

Historical Context

In ancient patriarchal culture, the emphasis on 'my mother's house' (rather than father's house) is noteworthy—it suggests the domestic, intimate sphere where women had authority and where marriage preparation occurred. Mothers instructed daughters in matters of love, marriage, and sexuality. Spiced wine was a

luxury, made by adding aromatic herbs to wine. Pomegranate juice was refreshing and symbolized fertility and abundance. The bride's offer to serve her beloved fine wine demonstrates generous love—not demanding but giving. Church fathers saw the 'mother's house' as Jerusalem above (Galatians 4:26), the mother of believers. Medieval interpretation connected this to Mary (Jesus's mother) or to the Church as mother of believers.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. What role does spiritual community ('mother's house') play in teaching you about covenant love and faithfulness?
2. How can you actively serve Christ and others with your choicest gifts—your 'spiced wine and pomegranate juice'?
3. What does it mean to receive instruction about love from those who have gone before you in faith and marriage?

Interlinear Text

אֶנְהֶגֶגְךָ	אֶבְרִיָּאֲךָ	בֵּית אֶל	אִמִּי	תִלְמִידִי
I would lead	thee and bring	H413 house	thee into my mother's	who would instruct
H5090	H935	H1004	H517	H3925
אֲשָׁקֶכָּהּ	מִיַּיִן	הַיַּיִן הַמְּשֻׁקֵּץ	מֵעֵץ הַיַּחְזֵק	רִמְוִי:
me I would cause thee to drink	wine	of spiced	of the juice	of my pomegranate
H8248	H3196	H7544	H6071	H7416

Additional Cross-References

Song of Solomon 3:4: It was but a little that I passed from them, but I found him whom my soul loveth: I held him, and would not let him go, until I had brought him into my mother's house, and into the chamber of her that conceived me.

Song of Solomon 7:12: Let us get up early to the vineyards; let us see if the vine flourish, whether the tender grape appear, and the pomegranates bud forth: there will I give thee my loves.

Galatians 4:26: But Jerusalem which is above is free, which is the mother of us all.

From KJV Study • kjevstudy.org