

Song of Songs Jane's Funeral - Valerie



A few months ago I attended a Funeral in an Anglican Church. The Church was very full, so I sat near the back among those who like me, had perhaps only known Jane slightly. I became aware that those around me were probably not Churchgoers.

Towards the end of the Funeral Service the lady Vicar read these verses from the Song of Songs.

Come then my love,
my lovely one come.

For see winter is past, the rains are over and gone.

The flowers appear on the earth.

The season of glad songs has come,
the cooing of the turtle dove is heard in our land.

The fig tree is forming its first figs and the blossoming vines give out their fragrance.

Come then my love,
my lovely one come.

She then said "these are the words that God will have spoken to Jane as he welcomed her into His Kingdom"; there was an audible gasp from those around me, the Vicar continued, "and these are the words that God will speak to each one of us when he welcomes us at the end of our lives" Everyone around me including myself, burst into tears. It made me realise anew how much we all need to hear again and again that God loves us and indeed delights in us. When I saw the effect those words had on the people around me I also realised anew the importance of making this known to the many who have never heard it.