

## Chapter 02

**I** am <sup>a)</sup>the flower of the filde, and the lilie of the valley. <sup>2 b)</sup>As the lilie among the thornes, fo is my loue among the daughters. <sup>3 c)</sup>As the aple-tree among trees of the woodes, fo is my beloued among the fonnes. Vnder his shadow, whom I defired, I fate: and his fruite was fweete vnto my throte. <sup>4</sup> He brought me into the wineceller, he hath ordered in me charitie. <sup>5</sup> Stay me vp with flowers, compaffe me about with apples: becaufe I languish with loue. <sup>6</sup> His lefthand vnder my head, and his righthand shal embrace me. <sup>7</sup> I adire you ô daughters of Ierufalem, by the roes, and the hartes of the fildes, <sup>d)</sup>that you rayfe not, nor make the beloued to awake, vntil herfelfe wil. <sup>8 e)</sup>The voice of my beloued, behold he cometh leaping in the mountaines, leaping ouer the little hilles: <sup>9</sup> my beloued is like vnto a roe, and to a fawne of hartes. Behold he ftandeth behind our walle, <sup>f)</sup>looking through the windowes, looking forth by the grates. <sup>10</sup> Behold my beloued fpeaketh to me: <sup>g)</sup>Arife, make haft my loue, my doue, beautiful one, and come. <sup>11</sup> For winter is now pafte, the rayne is gone, and departed. <sup>12</sup> The flowers haue appeared in our land, the time of pruning is come: the voice of the turtle doue is heard in our land: <sup>13</sup> the figgetree hath brought forth her greene figges: the florishing vineyards haue geuen their fauour. Arife my loue, my beautiful one, & come.

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<sup>a</sup> Chrift profeffeth himfelf the floure of mankind: yea Lord of al creatures.

<sup>b</sup> The Church excelleth al other focieties: In the Church the godlie excel finners, among the innocent and holie, the virgin Marie fupaffeth al.

<sup>c</sup> The Church praifing Chrift refteth vnder his protectiō.

<sup>d</sup> He for the weakes fake permitteth her not to be moleftes, til ſhe be prepared to fuffer vvith patience.

<sup>e</sup> She feeling Chriffs affiftance, confeffeth, & preacheth boldly his Gofpel, & truth againft al Paganes, and Heretikes.

<sup>f</sup> VVho though he flew not himfelf vifibly,

<sup>g</sup> yet encorageth her to approch vnto him:

<sup>14</sup> My doue in the holes of the rocke, in the holow places  
of the wal, shew me thy face, let thy voice found in  
mine eares: for thy voice is fweete, and thy face comely.  
<sup>15</sup> <sup>a)</sup>Catch vs the litle foxes, that deftroy the vineyards:  
for our vineyard hath florished. <sup>16</sup> <sup>b)</sup>My beloued to me,  
and I to him, who feedeth among the lilies, <sup>17</sup> til the day  
breake, and the shadowes decline. Returne: be like, my  
beloued, to a roe, and to the fawne of hartes vpon the  
mountaynes of Bether.

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<sup>a</sup> commandeth his paftours to deftroy herefies.

<sup>b</sup> And fo she repofeth in him.