

Song of Solomon 2:15

TAKE US THE LITTLE FOXES

I. The setting.

- A. A young poor Shulamite maiden met the king and saw him not only handsome, but also endowed with the wisdom of God.
- B. In this beautiful courtship there is a growing intensity in their love for one another (8b).
 - 1. After the shy and awkward stage of their relationship there is a growing desire to be alone with each other (13b).
 - 2. In every courtship, there are going to be problems, sometimes big ones, but always little ones like little foxes.

II. The spiritual significance.

- A. In the vineyard the husbandman plants his vines with great care.
 - 1. He prepares the soil, plants the roots spacing them to give room for the branches to run out, builds a wall and watchtower.
 - 2. Especially in the spring of the year, the husbandman must watch out for the young foxes which get into the vineyard.
 - 3. The vines are the members of the church, given by God to Christ, working faith in their hearts.
 - 4. He nurtures the growth of the vines with the preaching, sacraments and discipline.
- B. The vines, given that they are living in and out of Jesus Christ, live a new life and freed from the bondage of sin (Belgic, 24).
 - 1. There are many little foxes running in the midst of the spiritual vineyard of the church – anything that would damage the members so they do not bring forth the spiritual fruits they ought.
 - 2. Solomon (and our Savior) gives command to those guarding the vineyard (the elders) to catch the foxes, lest they damage the vines, especially that for the tender children.
 - 3. It is His command that anything which lessens the vines' production be caught.
 - 4. Catch the foxes and bring forth spiritual fruits of thankfulness in rich abundance, to the glory of God the Father, Who has given us His glorious salvation in Jesus Christ.