

# The Four Senses of Scripture

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WHAT VATICAN II REALLY SAID ABOUT THE BIBLE: STUDYING THE  
WORD OF GOD FROM THE HEART OF THE CHURCH  
WEEK 6

*Dei Verbum*  
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- Content and unity of the whole Scripture
- Living Tradition of the whole Church
- Coherence of the whole of the faith within itself and within the whole plan of Revelation



## Literal Sense

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- Meaning author intended to convey
- All other senses depend on the literal sense
- Isaiah 5:1-7

# Spiritual Senses

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Allegorical  
(Typological)  
Sense

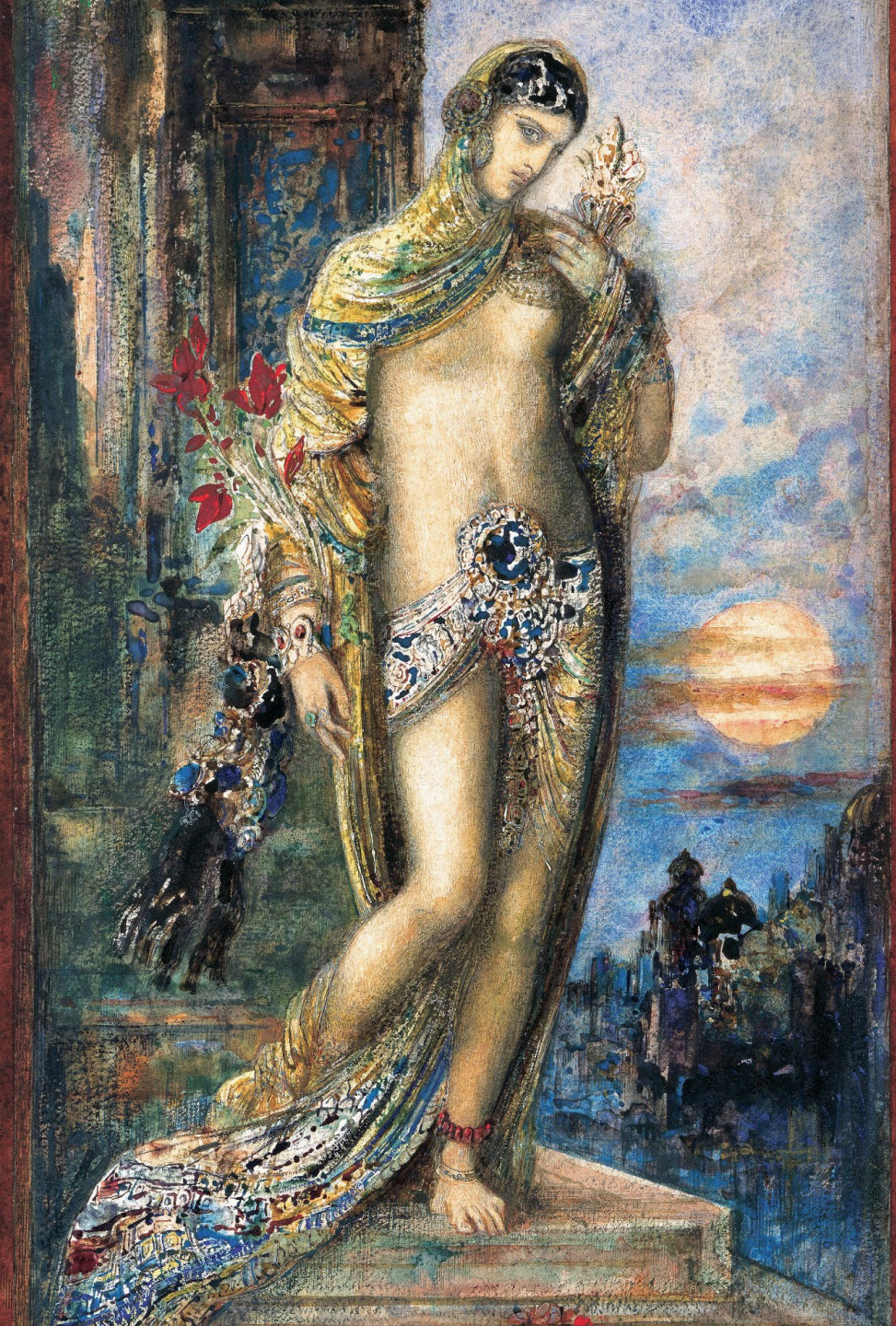
- Understanding all Scripture in light of Christ
- 1 Corinthians 10:1-4
- Allegorical reading of Isaiah 5:1-7?

## Moral Sense

- Instruction for right living
- 1 Corinthians 10:6-11
- Moral reading of Isaiah 5:1-7?

## Eschatological (Anagogical) Sense

- “Anagogical” from Greek for “leading” or “ascent”
- Understanding Scripture and our lived experience in light of our final end
- Also in light of the Church, the new Jerusalem
- Eschatological reading of Isaiah 5:1-7



# Song of Songs 4:1-16

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