



THE HIGHEST GOOD

a series in the Sermon on the Mount

Intimately Acquainted, Part II

*Israel was holy to the LORD,
the firstfruits of his harvest.*

Jeremiah 2:23

...you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light

1 Peter 2:9-10

Then the LORD God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I shall find a helper suitable for him. . . .

Genesis 2:18

Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up! Again, if two lie together, they keep warm, but how can one keep warm alone?

Ecclesiastes 4:9-11

*As an apple tree among the trees of the forest,
so is my beloved among the young men.
With great delight I sat in his shadow,
and his fruit was sweet to my taste.
He brought me to the banqueting house,
and his banner over me was love. . . .*

Song of Songs 2:3-4

*For as a young man marries a young woman,
so shall your sons marry you,
and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride,
so shall your God rejoice over you.*

Isaiah 62:5

I will betroth you to me in faithfulness. And you shall know the LORD.

Hosea 2:20

When I passed by you again and saw you, behold, you were at the age for love, and I spread the corner of my garment over you and covered your nakedness; I made my vow to you and entered into a covenant with you, declares the Lord GOD, and you became mine.

Ezekiel 16:9



Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Your love is your own private possession, but marriage is more than something personal – it is a status, an office. . . . In your love you see only the heaven of your own happiness, but in marriage you are placed at a post of responsibility towards the world and mankind.

it was also said, “whoever divorces his wife must give her a certificate of divorce,” but I say to you, “whoever divorces his wife except on the basis of immorality makes her an adulteress. And whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.”

vv. 31-32

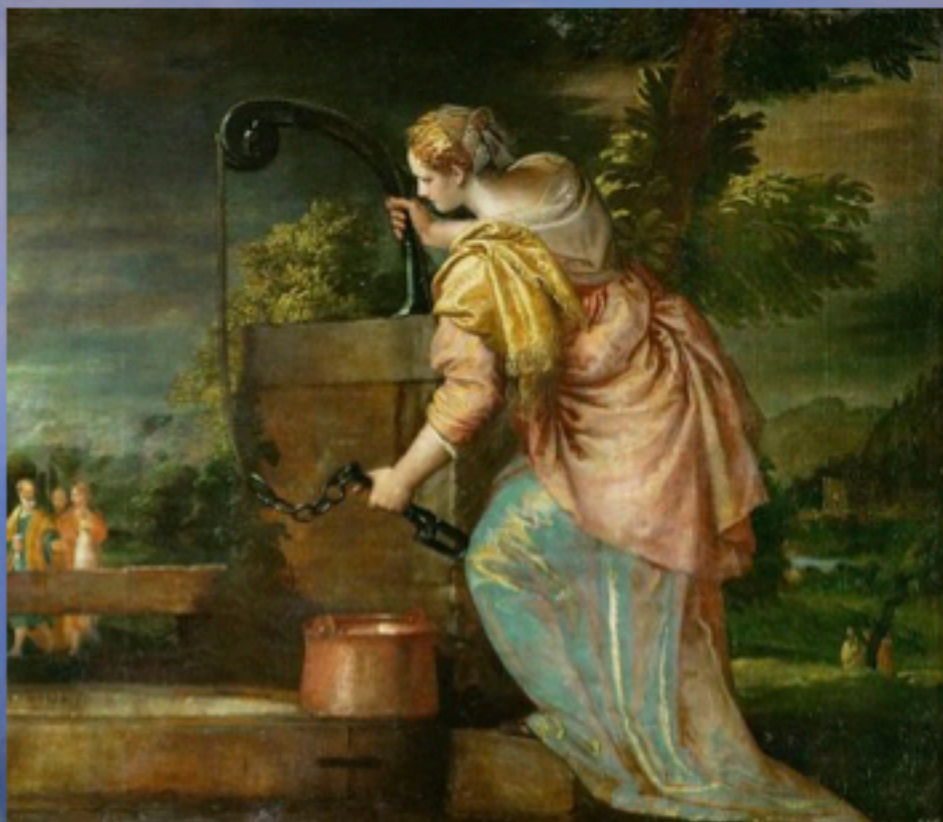
Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. So they are no longer two but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate. . . .

...They said to him, "Why then did Moses command one to give a certificate of divorce and to send her away?" He said to them, "Because of your hardness of heart Moses allowed you to divorce your wives, but from the beginning it was not so.

Matthew 19:6-8

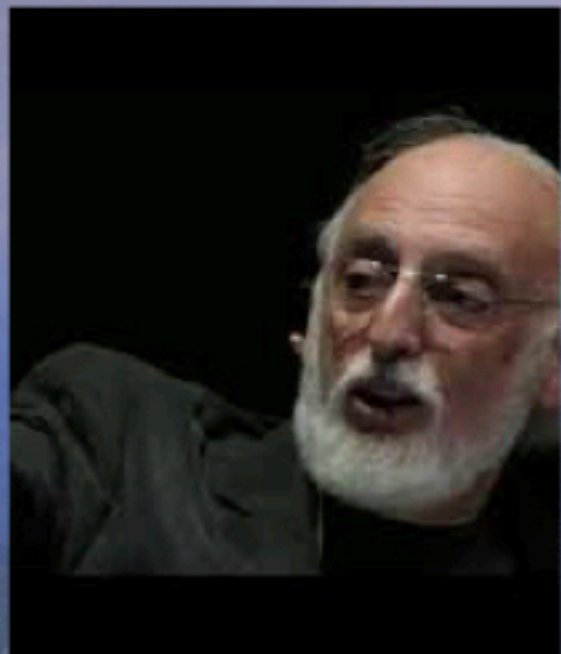
If such is the case of a man with his wife, it is better not to marry.

Matthew 19:10



"Christ and the Samaritan Woman at the well"

Paolo Veronese, 1585



John Gottman

I believe we're going to find that respect and affection are essential to all relationships working and contempt destroys them.



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