



## **Mortal Love and Immortal Love** ***Chemistry in Matter and in Spirit***

*By Rabbi Ariel Bar Tzadok*

***"All love that is dependent upon a thing,  
when that thing is nullified so is the love.  
When love is not dependent upon a thing then it lasts forever.  
Which is love that is dependent upon a thing,  
this is the love of Amnon and Tamar,  
and that which is not dependent upon a thing  
this is the love of David and Jonathan."  
(Pirkei Avot 5:19)***

Most of us do not know the real meaning of love. Granted love is a force of attraction. Yet, so are infatuation and lust. Every one of us at one time or another confuses these emotions with the true power and force of love. How then to tell the difference is the to be found in the wisdom of our holy Sages.

There are two kinds of love – that which is dependent upon a thing and that, which is not. Both forms of love appear to be legitimate expressions of emotion and caring. Yet, only one of them is eternal. The other form eventually fades with time. Love, therefore, can apparently exist on two different planes, between bodies and between souls. Unfortunately, often these two become confused.

These two types of love are a manifestation of the dual nature within creation and thus within the human species itself. As is known from the Bible (Gen. 1:1), creation consists of two distinct parts, the heavens, and the earth. Unknown to those outside of traditional Jewish mystical learning circles, the earth is not exclusively a reference to our planet, but is inclusive of the entire realm of physical matter. The heavens are a reference to another dimension of creation, which exists as a realm above matter, (as the heavens are above the earth). The dimensional realm biblically known as Heaven is the dimension of hyper-light mass-less energy, which we call the spiritual realm.

As abstract as this aspect of creation might sound scientifically, it nonetheless is inhabited by entities and beings that live "there" in accordance to the laws of nature that rule their dimension. These entities the religious refer to as angels and demons. For although these entities exist in a different form than one of physical matter, they

nonetheless, share with us aspects of personality which we define as morals. Good and evil both exist by these entities as they do by us.

Human souls also have a source in this dimension. It is the ethereal aspect of the human soul (from heaven) that comes into and (and eventually leaves from) a body on this earth. It is the nature of creation that we dual essence human beings exist in both of these dimensions. That aspect of our essence that naturally resides in the hyper-light mass-less side of the universe we call our souls. That aspect of our essence that exists in the realm of matter we call our bodies.

It is the nature of the physical universe to be in a state of constant change. Matter is always changing from one form to another. So it is with our bodies, they last us for only a short time, and then our souls depart from them enabling the matter making up the body to be reformed into new shapes and new bodies. The soul however, remains the eternal constant. It exists eternally, also in a state of flux, yet not as fluctuating as material matter which makes up bodies.

Matter and spirit, therefore each live by and are drawn to their own set of natural laws. Sometimes these can be in conflict, other times these two can be the greatest of compliments.

Love, in its pure spiritual form, is a force of attraction that brings together separate parts of a whole. Regardless of distance in time and space, this law of cohesion and unity overrides all obstacles. Similar to the law of entropy, which naturally restores all states of imbalance to pure balance, so too love restores all parts of a whole. The more force of separation is applied to separate a united whole, the greater the opposite effect to unite them grows. This is a natural law of the universe, only a fragment of which to we see manifest in human relationships.

However, once love relinquishes its pure form as energy and become engrossed in the realm of physical matter, then the magnetic drawing force of matter provides alternative attractions. Most often, those people who are unaware of spiritual laws cannot distinguish between love based on pure spiritual principles and its lower form, that which is based on physical attraction.

There is a serious limitation to physically based love. Like everything else in the physical universe, its form and shape is subject to comprehensive change, in a short amount of time. This is why many human relationships come together and break apart in short time, in spite of a very passionate time together. The attraction was purely physical and the union was physical. However, once the physical bond has been established, the nature of physical form takes over and seeks to create new forms and new relationships. The result being that new love is attracted and new human relationships are formed. Then



these too wear out, break down, and fall apart. The cycle is then repeated for as long as one inhabits a physical body.

Spiritual love and relationships are so comprehensively different that new words should be invented to describe them. Spiritual love, first and foremost, transcends physical love. Therefore, physical sexuality for the most part never plays a role in this type of love, unless the relationship is one wherein which such behavior is spiritually appropriate.

This brings us to a discussion of the examples quoted above. A love based upon a "thing" is nullified when the "thing" is nullified. Amnon was the son of King David. He greatly desired his half-sister Tamar. Although he was offered an opportunity to bond with her in an appropriate spiritual manner (i.e., marriage), he adamantly refused and forced himself upon her. His was a clear and evident case of physical love, which is correctly called lust. For once he had his way with Tamar; there was no sense of attraction left towards her.

As expected, his natural energy was refocused into new and different directions. His "love" for Tamar was complete, never to be repeated again. This is the nature of physical love. It is an ever so temporary attraction of physical magnetic forces. The problem with this type of attraction arises when either of the individuals so drawn expects or desires a higher degree of involvement, which includes more than the physical.

True spiritual love does not need a sexual component. This is most often the love expressed between family members and the closest of friends. These are usually life long relationships that intertwine the lives of the peoples involved. This kind of relationship cannot be had other than with another living human being. No pets or possessions are here applicable. The example of this type of relationship given by our holy Sages is that of David and Jonathan, son of King Saul. These two men were as brothers, although the struggles and daily affairs of life divided them.

Unfortunately, certain modern readers of the story of David and Jonathan seek to pervert their relationship and to turn it into a disgusting immoral thing. They wish to claim that David and Jonathan were (G-d forbid) pervert homosexual lovers. Such suggestions on the part of those who believe this only proves their own immoral perversion and their complete lack of Biblical understanding.

In the Bible, G-d calls David His beloved. G-d also is the One who condemns homosexuality as an abomination to be punished by the death penalty. It stands to reason that G-d would not call someone His beloved, all the while that such a one was guilty of an abomination. In addition, the point of mentioning David and Jonathan in contrast to Amnon and Tamar is specifically to show that there was no "thing" between David and Jonathan as there was between Amnon and Tamar. The thing in mention



obviously with Amnon and Tamar was sexual attraction. Being that there was no thing between David and Jonathan, there was no sexual attraction. Their relationship was one of spirit, one of souls and not one of the flesh.

It is certain that the author of the Mishna would never have dreamed of casting aspersions onto the reputation of two men who were righteous in the Eyes of G-d. Let this serve then as a lesson and warning to those who wish to pervert the meanings of the Bible, they will suffer the fate that they seek to wrongfully cast upon others. Their expressions also reveal a universal constant other than love. They reveal the opposite polarity that we call hate.

I must now reveal the secret of a great spiritual law. Just as there exists a universal power of magnetism that draws likes together and binds them, so there exists a universal power that repels opposites. These forces interact with us daily in chemistry, whether it is scientific chemistry or human chemistry.

Certain chemicals if mixed together cannot stand to be together, they separate at the fastest possible speed. We call this separation an explosion. The same rule applies with regards to spiritual elements. Due to the nature of physical matter, opposing spiritual elements can be brought into close proximity with one another through the medium of bodies. However, as close as two bodies can become, their inner essences, if opposites will always remain such, unless the spiritual component is somehow changed.

Without such change of the spiritual component, the two bodies brought together will always be at war with one another. Until they are physically separated, they will be in a state of continual explosion, creating havoc, and destruction as long as they are in close physical proximity.

Such examples of this are found everywhere. One major example of this today is the Jewish-Moslem conflict in the Land of Israel. Moslems by nature (as do Christians) come from a completely different spiritual source than do Jews.

Although from the physical side, we are all more or less identical human beings. Nonetheless, from the side of our energy-oriented essences, we are spiritually very different. Therefore, coexistent peaceful living of Jews, Moslems, and Christians is something that never has nor ever can be accomplished.

Aware of the divergent natures of His creations, G-d has ordained separate lands in which each of these groups is to live. When these borders are respected and the opposing cultures and peoples maintain their distances from one another, then there is stability. However, when there is a blurring of physical borders, or worse, a blurring of cultural differences, then the soul essence is affected and the result is an explosion of



the spiritual/psychological/social type. Yet, for whatever reasons, world leaders today appear to act with blindness towards this very real and active spiritual principle.

The forces of love and hate are very real essential primordial energy forces that exist in the universe beyond the mere borders of human emotions and interactions. When attraction, or for that matter revulsion is based upon a "thing" meaning the forces interacting are of the realm of matter, (i.e., the earth) then we say that the attraction is dependant upon a "thing." This thing is the body or form that one is attracted to. However, as with all forms of matter, all bodies are subject to change.

Thus when the body changes its form over time, as the laws of nature dictate, then the attraction changes along with it and is usually broken and nullified. The obvious problem arises when there is an attempt to manipulate the spiritual forces in physical bodies and to either unite them or dissipate them in accordance to the laws of matter as opposed to their dominate laws of spirit. This is when we have all forms of human strife and unrest. Lack of proper insight to distinguish between spiritual and physical is here the culprit.

The spiritual bond that creates immortal love is not one that can be broken by any action or thing here on earth (or in this physical universe). These bonds of true love transcend all. The death of the body does not disturb this type of love. True immortal love follows one from lifetime to lifetime. Human souls, like grapes, form in clusters. Whenever they come to earth, they always come in groups.

This explains why often many have the feeling that people they know in this life they have known before. This is because they have known them before, both in lives in this world and in the other dimension of the realm of souls. Although all souls of a cluster are united, this does not mean that they come to earth each time having the same relationship to the other souls of the cluster. One who in this life is one's parent or spouse may in the next life be one's sibling or child. These patterns follow rules of a higher order, which in our present human state, we cannot know or understand.

In cases of true immortal love, the individuals involved will still often fall into conflict with one another. These conflicts however are usually concerning some "thing" of this physical world. The general rule applies here as well. When this "thing," this physical cause of conflict is nullified, so then is the conflict usually resolved. This explains why family members often quarrel over minor or stupid things, yet more than not seem to pull together and unite over serious and important issues.

Mortal love in the physical plane and immortal love of the spiritual plane both have their place in each of our lives. There is nothing wrong for one to have a love for a "thing" or based on a "thing" as long as the one holding such love recognizes the limitations and ultimate termination of such a kind of love. There is nothing wrong with one loving his/her



pet, car, house, or other possession, as long as one does not try to invert the order of nature and apply immortal love to these most mortal things. Such confusion only leads to pain and suffering.

Immortal love should never be thought lost because one has conflicts with beloved family members. Somehow or another, in this lifetime or the next, all outstanding issues will be resolved and peace and unity will be restored among soul family members, for this is the law of spiritual nature.

When we pay attention and properly distinguish mortal love from immortal love we can then honor and respect both for what they are. This awareness of the difference between the temporal and eternal helps us to lead balanced, happy and healthy lives. For this reason did our Sages speak to us their words of wisdom, that we can all accomplish our greatest human destiny – to live and prosper as beings created in the image of G-d.

Shalom.