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Jewish Psychology – Relationships PART II - Week 6 – 2021

1. And from my flesh I see G-d. (Job 19:26)
2. Antigonus of Socho...says: Do not be as servants, who serve their master for the sake of reward. Rather, be as servants who serve their master not for the sake of reward. And the fear of Heaven should be upon you. (Ethics of Our Fathers 1:3)
3. Any love that is dependent on something—when the thing ceases, the love also ceases. But a love that is not dependent on anything never ceases. (Ethics of Our Fathers 5:16)
4. *My beloved is to me, and I am to him.* (Song of Songs 2:16). *I am to my beloved, and my beloved is to me.* (ibid, 6:3)
5. And I find more bitter than death the woman [whose heart is snares and nets, her hands are bonds; whoever is good in G-d's sight will escape from her, and a sinner will be taken by her.] (Ecclesiastes 7:26)
6. He who has found a wife has found good, [and has obtained favor from the L-rd.] (Proverbs 18:22)
7. For I have known him because he commands his sons and his household after him, that they should keep the way of the L-rd to perform righteousness and justice, (Genesis 18:19)
 - a. **RASHI:** For I have known him: Heb. וידעתי, an expression of love, like (Ruth 2:1) “a kinsman (מוֹדֵעַ) of her husband”; (ibid. 3:2) “And now, Boaz our kinsman (מוֹדֵעֲנוּ)”; (Exod. 33:17): “and I shall know you (יָדַעְתִּיךָ) by name.” But, in fact, the primary meaning of them all is none other than an expression of knowing, for if one loves a person, he draws him near to himself and knows him and is familiar with him.
8. And he took the Book of the Covenant and read it within the hearing of the people, and they said, "All that the L-rd spoke we will do and we will hear."
And Moses took the blood and sprinkled [it] on the people, and he said, "Behold the blood of the covenant, which the L-rd has formed with you concerning these words." (Exodus 24:7-8)
9. ... the L-rd your G-d has chosen you...Not because you are more numerous than any people did the Lord delight in you and choose you, for you are the least of all the peoples. (Deuteronomy 7:7)
10. Zohar (I 91B) states that a husband and wife are one soul, but when the soul descends into this world, half of it enters the male's body, and the other half enters the body of the woman that is his intended mate. Therefore, each one is referred to as "A half Body" (Zohar III 7B, 109B, 296A), since in each one separately there is only half a soul. Regarding this it states in Genesis 2:24, "*Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife, and they shall be one flesh.*", since the husband and wife were originally one soul that was split in two. (Toras Menachem, Tazria 5714)
11. ...a direct and easy path toward fulfilling the mitzvah, “You shall love your fellow as yourself,” (Leviticus 19:18): ...Since his body is despised and loathsome, [he will not love himself on account of his body more than he loves his fellow, and] as for the soul and spirit, [the differences between his own soul and that of his fellow surely will not diminish the love between them, for] who can know their (the soul and spirit’s) greatness and excellence in their source and root—the living G-d?
[How, then, can one claim that his soul is superior to his fellow’s?] Furthermore, they are actually all equal, [and not only equal yet separate, but, furthermore,] they all have one father. It is on account of this common root in the One G-d that all of Israel are called “brothers”—in the full sense of the word, only the bodies are distinct from each other.
[This explains how it is at all possible to demand that one love his fellow as he loves himself. Self-love is innate, natural to man; love for one’s fellow is not. How can a generated love match a natural one?
According to the principle stated here, this is readily understood. One need not create a love for another. The love is an inborn characteristic of his soul on account of its root in G-dliness which is common to all souls; it is as natural as the love between brothers.
Since the body separates us from each other, whereas the soul is that which binds us together, the greater value one places on his body at the expense of his soul, the more conscious he is of the differences between himself and his fellow. These differences require that he *create* a love for his fellow, and, as said above, a created love can never

