



# Class #4

**A Love of Many Forms**



# Love is and...well...isn't

The Transactional God.... “Good Acts – Sins = Level of Faith”

Build on goodness instead of “keeping receipts”

رسولُ اللهِ (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ): إِذَا أَرَادَ اللهُ بِأَهْلِ بَيْتٍ خَيْرًا أَدْخَلَ عَلَيْهِمْ بَابَ رِفْقٍ.

The Prophet (SAWA) said, 'When Allah wishes to bestow good on a household, he introduces leniency into it.' [Sharhe Nahj al-Balagha, Ibn Abi al-Hadid]

الإمامُ عليٌّ (عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ): الرِّفْقُ يُيسِّرُ الصِّعَابَ ، وَيُسَهِّلُ شَدِيدَ الْأَسْبَابِ.

Imam Ali (AS) said, 'Leniency eases hardships and facilitates difficult situations.' [Ghurar al-Hikam, no. 1778]

# Love is Embellishment

Love is  
Pet  
Names

Love is a  
Random  
Text

Love is  
sometimes  
giving more  
than you  
get

Love is  
Loving  
Words

Love is  
holding  
each other  
in high  
regard

*God's Emissaries: Adam to Jesus*

## *A Lesson on Love*

He once observed a male sparrow complaining to its mate, "Why do you rebuff my advances." Then with bravado, he added, "If I wished, I could seize the dome from atop King Solomon's palace in my beak and hurl it into the sea."

Witnessing the sparrow's bluster, Solomon smiled amusedly and asked, "Can you truly do this?"

The sparrow replied, "No, Messenger of God! But a male must sometimes puff his chest and aggrandize himself before his mate. Besides, one in love must not be blamed for what he says."

Solomon turned to the female sparrow and asked, "Why do you rebuff his advances when he loves you so?"

She replied, "O Prophet of God! He is not truly in love with me. He only claims to be so, for he loves another besides me." Her words affected Solomon deeply. Without tarrying a moment longer, he retreated into the temple for forty days, weeping intensely and begging God to purify his heart of all love but the love of God, for the sparrow had reminded him that a heart has room for only one love.<sup>16</sup>

# The Various Faces of Love

هُنَّ لِبَاسٌ لَكُمْ وَأَنْتُمْ لِبَاسٌ لَهُنَّ

“....they are an apparel for you and you are an apparel for them...” (2:187)

## The Purpose of Clothing (لباس):

- 1) Protection
- 2) Dignity
- 3) Beauty

Value vs Compromise: When there is a difference of values, we need to negotiate the parameters of the compromise. (ie – smoking)

# From the Honeymoon and Beyond....

- The honeymoon stage is filled with excitement, joy, passion and novelty. Everything is new and every day is excited!
- Honeymoon love is the most intense but the most temporary
- As a couple begins to harmonize, the love changes!

الإمام عليّ (عليه السلام): عَيْنُ الْمُحِبِّ عَمِيَّةٌ عَنْ مَعَايِبِ الْمَحْبُوبِ، وَأُذُنُهُ صَمَاءٌ عَنْ قُبْحِ مَسَاوِيهِ .

Imam Ali (AS) said, ‘The lover’s eye is blind to the defects of the beloved, and their ear is deaf to the ugliness of their misdeeds.’ [Ghurar al-Hikam, no. 9872]

الإمام عليّ (عليه السلام): مَنْ أَحَبَّكَ نَهَاكَ

Imam Ali (AS) said, ‘The one who loves you forbids you [from committing sin].’ [Ghurar al-Hikam, no. 7718]