

## Chapter 39

# Two Of Us

### BIBLE

After these things Paul departed from Athens and came to Corinth.<sup>1</sup> All the people came early in the morning to him in the temple to hear him.<sup>2</sup>

As some were talking about the temple and how it was decorated with beautiful stones and gifts, he said<sup>3</sup> “Bear with me a little and I will show you, for I still have something to say on God’s behalf.”<sup>4</sup>

“Husbands, love your wives, and don’t be bitter against them.”<sup>5</sup>

“Who can find a worthy woman? For her price is far above rubies.<sup>6</sup> Don’t forsake her, and she will preserve you. Love her, and she will keep you.<sup>7</sup> A loving doe and a graceful deer— let her breasts satisfy you at all times. Be captivated always with her love.”<sup>8</sup>

He said, “Please, my brothers, don’t act so wickedly.<sup>9</sup> Many men claim to be men of unfailing love, but who can find a faithful man?<sup>10</sup> Love and faithfulness keep the king safe. His throne is sustained by love.”<sup>11</sup>

### COMMENTARY

<sup>1</sup> **Acts 18:1** Paul: “I’m not religious, but I’m very spiritual.”

<sup>2</sup> **Luke 21:38** Paul: “Somewhere down the line everyone must pay for their misdeeds.”

<sup>3</sup> **Luke 21:5**

<sup>4</sup> **Job 36:2**

<sup>5</sup> **Colossians 3:19**

<sup>6</sup> **Proverbs 31:10** Farrah Fawcett: “God made man stronger but not necessarily more intelligent. He gave women intuition and femininity. And, used properly, that combination easily jumbles the brain of any man I’ve ever met.”

<sup>7</sup> **Proverbs 4:6** Mahatma Gandhi: “Of all the evils for which man has made himself responsible, none is so degrading, so shocking or so brutal as his abuse of the better half of humanity; the female sex.”

<sup>8</sup> **Proverbs 5:19** John Eldredge: “She is the crescendo, the final, astonishing work of God. Woman. In one last flourish creation comes to a finish with Eve. She is the Master's finishing touch.”

<sup>9</sup> **Genesis 19:7** John Lennon: “As usual, there is a great woman behind every idiot.”

<sup>10</sup> **Proverbs 20:6**

<sup>11</sup> **Proverbs 20:28**

A certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira, one who worshiped God, heard us; whose heart the Lord opened to listen to the things which were spoken by Paul.<sup>12</sup>

Strength and dignity are her clothing. She laughs at the time to come.<sup>13</sup>

But when the crowd was put out, he entered in, took her by the hand, and the girl arose.<sup>14</sup> He said to her, "Please give me a little water to drink; for I am thirsty." She opened a bottle of milk, and gave him drink, and covered him.<sup>15</sup>

When she had done giving him drink, she said, "I will also draw for your camels, until they have done drinking."<sup>16</sup>

He said, "I am Abraham's servant.<sup>17</sup> Who is she who looks forth as the morning, beautiful as the moon, clear as the sun, and awesome as an army with banners?"<sup>18</sup> Many women do noble things, but you excel them all.<sup>19</sup>

"Your lips are like scarlet thread. Your mouth is lovely. Your temples are like a piece of a pomegranate behind your veil.<sup>20</sup> I will give you thanks in the great assembly. I will praise you among many people."<sup>21</sup>

<sup>12</sup> **Acts 16:14** [*"Lydia" is American photographer Linda Eastman, whom Paul met in 1967 and would marry two years later*]

Linda, like Yoko Ono, was a sophisticated, intelligent, confident woman who had her own career. As in John's relationship with Yoko, Paul felt very comfortable around his new partner.

<sup>13</sup> **Proverbs 31:25**

<sup>14</sup> **Matthew 9:25** [*"He" is Paul*]

<sup>15</sup> **Judges 4:19** Margaret Mead:

"Having someone wonder where you are when you don't come home at night is a very old human need."

<sup>16</sup> **Genesis 24:19**

<sup>17</sup> **Genesis 24:34** (Anonymous)

"Soul-mates are people who bring out the best in you. They are not perfect but are always perfect for you."

<sup>18</sup> **Song of Solomon 6:10** "Bright are the stars that shine, dark is the sky. I know this love of mine will never die," Paul shares in "And I Love Her."

<sup>19</sup> **Proverbs 31:29** "She's a woman who understands. She's a woman who loves her man," Paul declares in "She's A Woman."

<sup>20</sup> **Song of Solomon 4:3** "I'll pretend I am kissing the lips I am missing," Paul imagines in "All My Loving."

<sup>21</sup> **Psalms 35:18** "I will always feel the same. Love you forever and forever," Paul shares in "I Will."

“You have ravished my heart, my sister, my bride. You have ravished my heart with one of your eyes, with one chain of your neck.<sup>22</sup> Behold, my breast is as wine which has no vent; like new wineskins it is ready to burst.<sup>23</sup>

“You are all beautiful, my love. There is no spot in you.<sup>24</sup> I have compared you, my love, to a steed in Pharaoh's chariots.<sup>25</sup> So I will sing praise to your name forever, that I may fulfill my vows daily.”<sup>26</sup>

“This, your stature, is like a palm tree, your breasts like its fruit.<sup>27</sup> Even as the Father has loved me, I also have loved you. Remain in my love.”<sup>28</sup>

“The fig tree ripens her green figs. The vines are in blossom. They give out their fragrance. Arise, my love, my beautiful one, and come away.”<sup>29</sup>

She said, “Drink, my lord.” She hurried, and let down her pitcher on her hand, and gave him drink.<sup>30</sup>

<sup>22</sup> **Song of Solomon 4:9** “My heart went boom when I crossed that room,” Paul announces in “I Saw Her Standing There.”

<sup>23</sup> **Job 32:19** “I’ve got a feeling, a feeling deep inside,” Paul declares in “I’ve Got A Feeling.”

<sup>24</sup> **Song of Solomon 4:7** “To lead a better life, I need my love to be here,” Paul admits in “Here There And Everywhere.”

<sup>25</sup> **Song of Solomon 1:9 7** “The way she looked was way beyond compare,” Paul observes in “I Saw Her Standing There.”

<sup>26</sup> **Psalms 61:8** “There is one thing I’m sure of. I will love her forever,” Paul, with John, confesses in “Every Little Thing.”

<sup>27</sup> **Song of Solomon 7:7** “She’s sweeter than all the girls and I’ve met quite a few,” Paul admits in “Another Girl.”

<sup>28</sup> **John 15:9** “Remember that I’ll always be in love with you, Paul shares in “PS I Love You.”

<sup>29</sup> **Song of Solomon 2:13** “I love you, I love you, I love you” Paul declares emphatically in “Michelle.”

<sup>30</sup> **Genesis 24:18** [*“She” is Lydia*] Antoine de Saint-Exupery: “Life has taught us that love does not consist in gazing at each other, but in looking outward together in the same direction.”

So they sat down, ate, and drank, both of them together: and the young lady's father said to the man, "Please be pleased to stay all night, and let your heart be merry."<sup>31</sup>

She said moreover to him, "We have both straw and feed enough, and room to lodge in."<sup>32</sup> Behold, you are beautiful, my beloved, yes, pleasant; and our couch is verdant."<sup>33</sup>

And the two will become one flesh, so that they are no longer two, but one flesh.<sup>34</sup> Whoever finds a wife finds a good thing, and obtains favor of Yahweh.<sup>35</sup>

She looks well to the ways of her household, and doesn't eat the bread of idleness.<sup>36</sup> She makes for herself carpets of tapestry. Her clothing is fine linen and purple.<sup>37</sup>

The heart of her husband trusts in her. He shall have no lack of gain.<sup>38</sup> She does him good, and not harm, all the days of her life.<sup>39</sup>

<sup>31</sup> **Judges 19:6** (Anonymous)  
"Shared joy is a double joy. Shared sorrow is half a sorrow."

<sup>32</sup> **Genesis 24:25** Pierre Teilhard de Chardin: "Driven by the force of love the fragments of the world seek each other that the world may come into being."

<sup>33</sup> **Song of Solomon 1:16**

<sup>34</sup> **Mark 10:8** Paul and Linda were married in March, 1969. John, recently divorced from his first wife Cynthia, married Yoko Ono eight days later.

<sup>35</sup> **Proverbs 18:22** Paul was the last Beatle to marry. Ringo had been married to Mary ("Maureen") Cox since 1965, and George and Patty Boyd were wed in 1966.

<sup>36</sup> **Proverbs 31:27** Linda McCartney was certainly not idle. Besides being Paul's wife, and mother to their four children, she was a photographer, a musician, an animal rights activist, a business entrepreneur, and a writer of several vegetarian cookbooks.

<sup>37</sup> **Proverbs 31:22**

<sup>38</sup> **Proverbs 31:11** Paul and Linda were devoted to each other. He claimed they never spent a night apart, other than during the ten day period he spent in jail in Japan in 1980 for possession of marijuana.

<sup>39</sup> **Proverbs 31:12** Linda McCartney died of breast cancer in 1998. She and Paul had been happily married for 29 years.