



# Rocky's Road



*lessons from*

**SEX-LOVE AND GOD**

*song of solomon*

**She-** Who is this coming up from the wilderness like a column of smoke, perfumed with myrrh and incense made from all the spices of the merchant? <sup>7</sup> Look! It is Solomon's carriage, escorted by sixty warriors, the noblest of Israel,<sup>8</sup> all of them wearing the sword, all experienced in battle, each with his sword at his side, prepared for the terrors of the night.

Song of Songs 3:6-11

**She-** <sup>9</sup> King Solomon made for himself the carriage; he made it of wood from Lebanon.<sup>10</sup> Its posts he made of silver, its base of gold. Its seat was upholstered with purple, its interior inlaid with love. Daughters of Jerusalem, <sup>11</sup> come out, and look, you daughters of Zion. Look on King Solomon wearing a crown, the crown with which his mother crowned him on the day of his wedding, the day his heart rejoiced. Song of Songs 3:6-11



But for Adam no suitable helper was found. <sup>21</sup> So the Lord God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man's ribs and then closed up the place with flesh. <sup>22</sup> Then the Lord God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man. Genesis 2:20-22



The man said, “This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called ‘woman,’ for she was taken out of man.”<sup>24</sup> That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh.

Genesis 2:23,24



24 That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh.

Genesis 2:24





I will **take** (*laqach*)  
you as my own people,  
and I will be your God. Exodus 6:7

The first step of a Jewish groom in a  
Jewish betrothal ceremony; he would  
publicly declare to the bride,  
*"I take you as my bride"*

Now if you obey me fully and keep  
my covenant, then out of all nations  
you will be my treasured  
**possession.** (*cegulla*)  
Exodus 19:5

“*laqach*” was the public declaration  
“*cegulla*” was the **chosen**  
**treasured(ness)** of that declaration.

On the morning of the third day there  
was thunder and lightning, with a  
**thick cloud** over the mountain,  
Exodus 19:16

A thick cloud is symbolic of God's presence.

Even today at Jewish weddings they will get  
married under a “*huppah*” which  
symbolizes God's presence at their union.

The **Ketubah** was the written agreement that stipulated the expectations and the responsibilities of the groom to the bride.

# So what's the Ketubah for Israel?

## 1<sup>st</sup> commandment

I am the Lord your God who brought you out of Egypt and brought you out of the land of slavery, you shall have no other gods before Me. Exodus 20:1

During the reign of King Josiah, the Lord said to me, “Have you seen what faithless Israel has done? She has gone up on every high hill and under every spreading tree and has committed **adultery** there. <sup>7</sup> I thought that after she had done all this she would return to me but she did not, and her unfaithful sister Judah saw it. <sup>8</sup> I gave faithless Israel her certificate of divorce and sent her away because of all her **adulteries**. Jeremiah 3:6-8

“Therefore I am now going to allure her; I will lead her into the wilderness and speak tenderly to her.<sup>15</sup> There I will give her back her vineyards, ...<sup>16</sup> “In that day,” declares the Lord “**you will call me ‘my husband’**; you will no longer call me ‘my master.’”

Hosea 2:14-15a-16

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. <sup>2</sup> My Father’s house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there **to prepare a place for you?** <sup>3</sup> And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.

John 14:1-3



**Submit to one another out of  
reverence for Christ.<sup>22</sup> Wives,  
submit yourselves to your  
own husbands as you do to  
the Lord. Ephesians 5:21,22**

**Submit to one another out of  
reverence for Christ,**

**COMMA NOT PARAGRAPH**

**....wives do this for your  
husbands. Ephesians 5:21,22**

**For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior. <sup>24</sup> Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything.**

**Ephesians 5:23,24**

**Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her <sup>26</sup> to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, <sup>27</sup> and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. Ephesians 5:25-27**

**28 In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies.**

**He who loves his wife loves himself.**

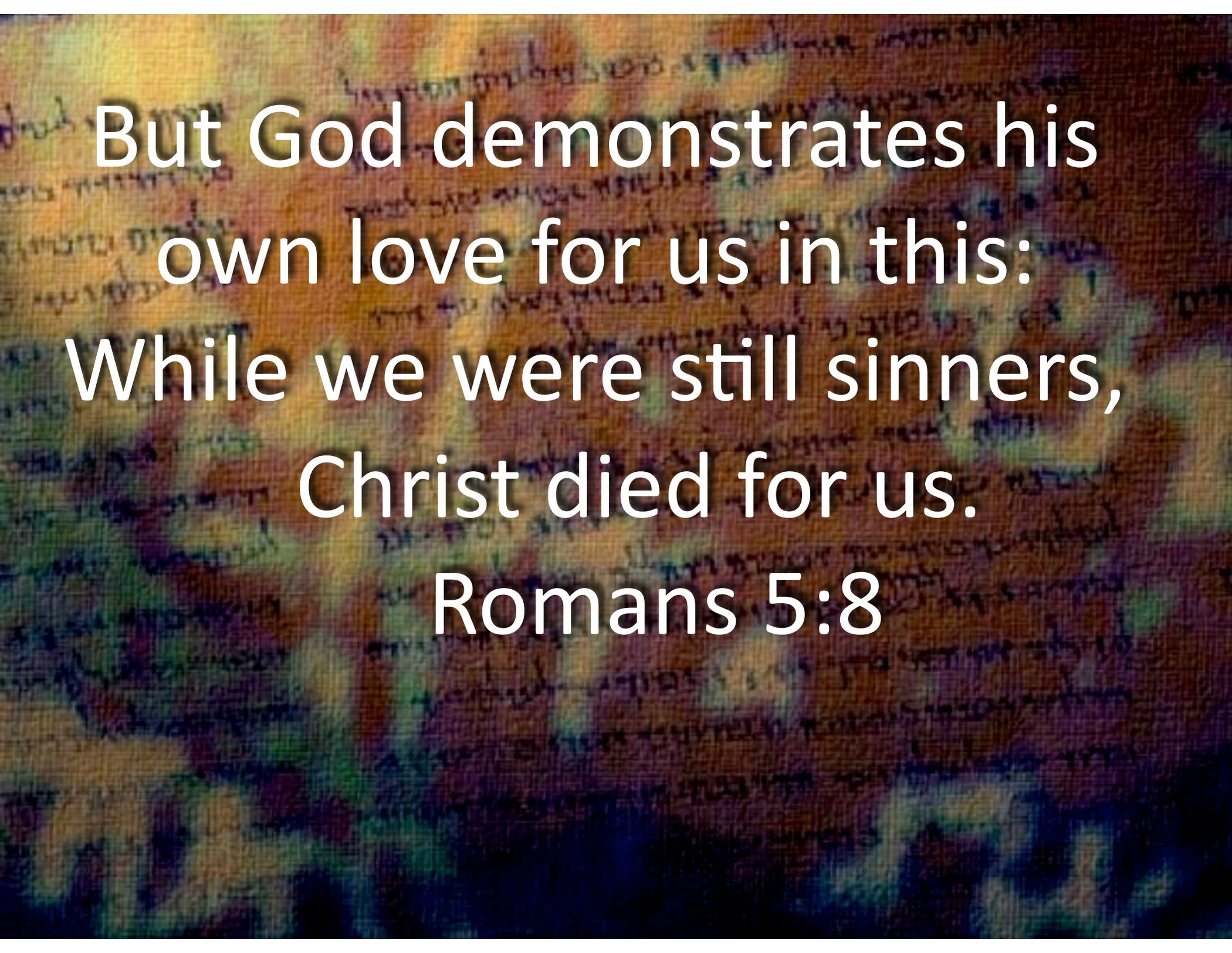
**29 After all, no one ever hated their own body, but they feed and care for their body, just as Christ does the church— 30 for we are members of his body.**

**Ephesians 5:28-30**

**“For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.”** <sup>32</sup> This is a profound mystery—but I am talking about Christ and the church.

**Ephesians 5:31,32**



The background of the image is an abstract, textured composition. It features a grid of small, irregular squares in various shades of brown, tan, and beige, overlaid on a darker, more complex pattern of deep blues, purples, and greens. The overall effect is a rich, multi-layered visual texture.

But God demonstrates his  
own love for us in this:  
While we were still sinners,  
Christ died for us.

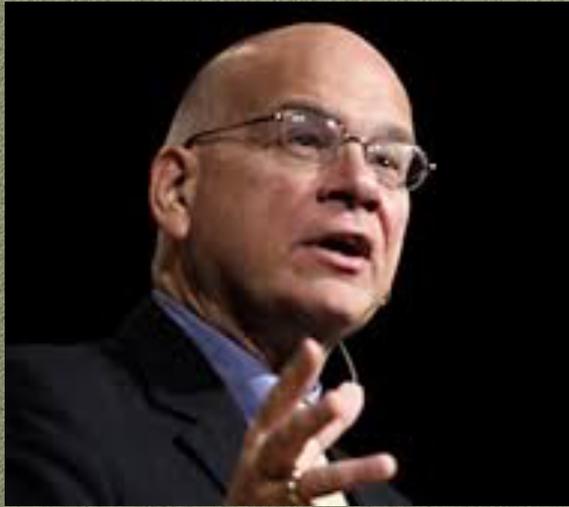
Romans 5:8

**<sup>25</sup> Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her.**

**<sup>28</sup> In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies.**

**Ephesians 5:25,28**

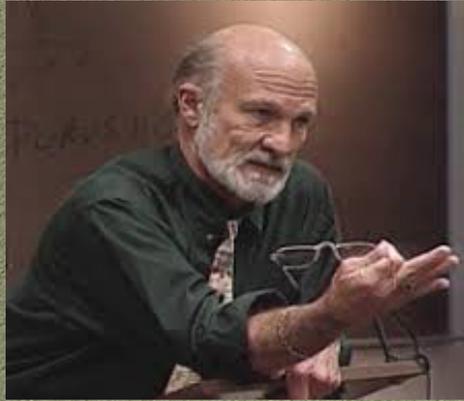




Tim Keller  
Meaning of  
Marriage

***"Love shouldn't be this hard, it should come naturally, right?"***

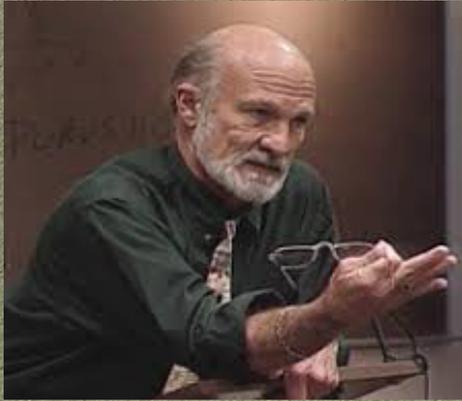
**His response is,** *"Would someone who wants to play professional baseball say, 'It shouldn't be this hard to hit a fastball?' Would someone who wants to write the greatest American novel say, 'It shouldn't be that hard to create believable characters and a compelling narrative?'"*



Stanley  
Hauerwas

Duke U.  
Ethics Professor

*"Destructive to marriage is the self-fulfillment ethic that assumes marriage and the family are primarily institutions of personal fulfillment, necessary for us to become 'whole and happy' the assumption is that there is someone just right for us to marry and that if we look hard enough we will find the right person. This moral assumption overlooks a crucial aspect to marriage. It fails to appreciate the fact that we always marry the wrong person.?"*



Stanley  
Hauerwas

Duke U.  
Ethics Professor

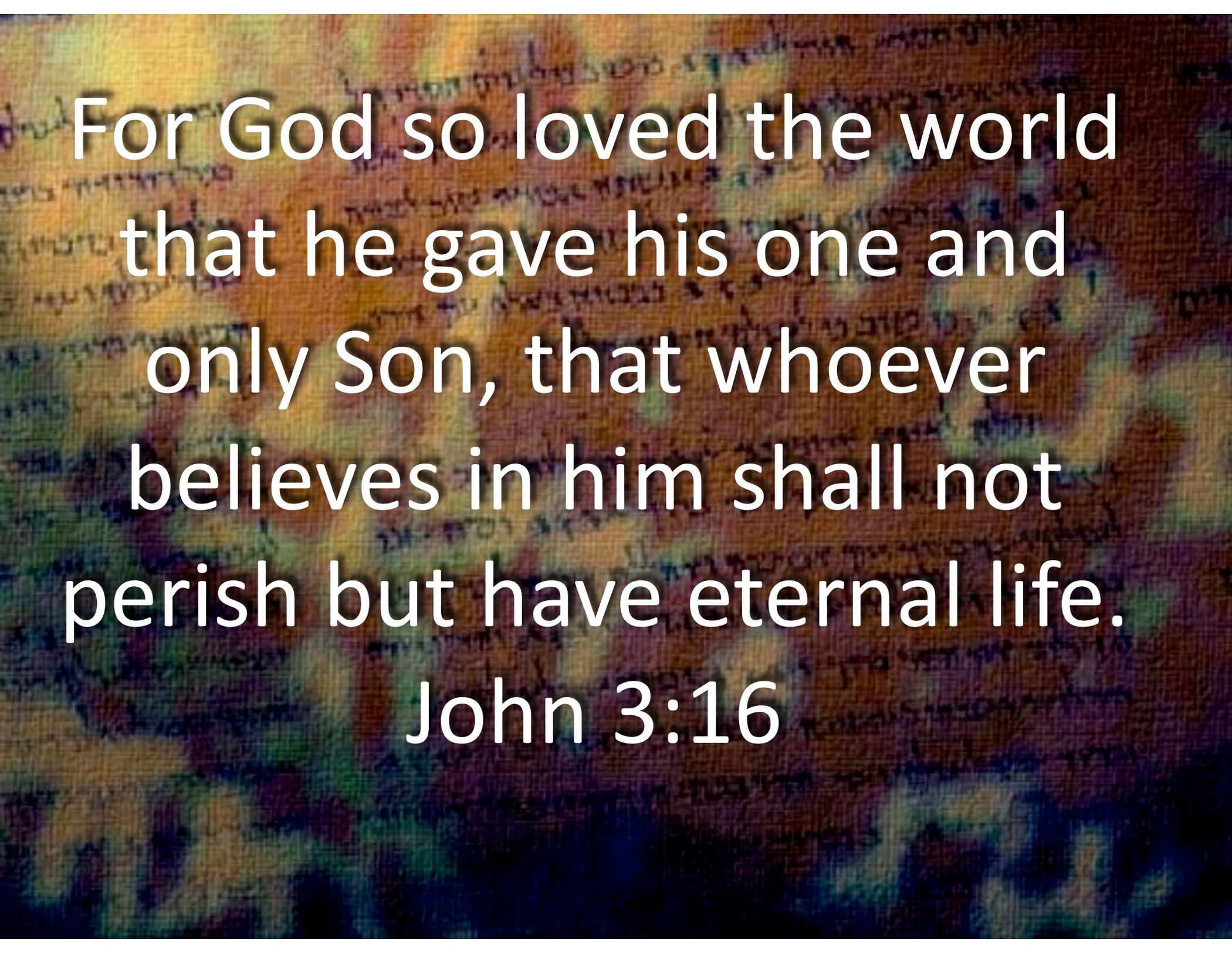
*"We never know whom we marry; we just think we do. Or even if we first marry the right person, just give it a while and he or she will change. For marriage, being the enormous thing it is, means we are not the same person after we have entered it. "*



## ***A Soul Mate Survey***

*"A willingness to take them as they are and not change them. Finding someone who will fit into their lifestyle. Someone who will support them in their goals and their pursuit of success."*

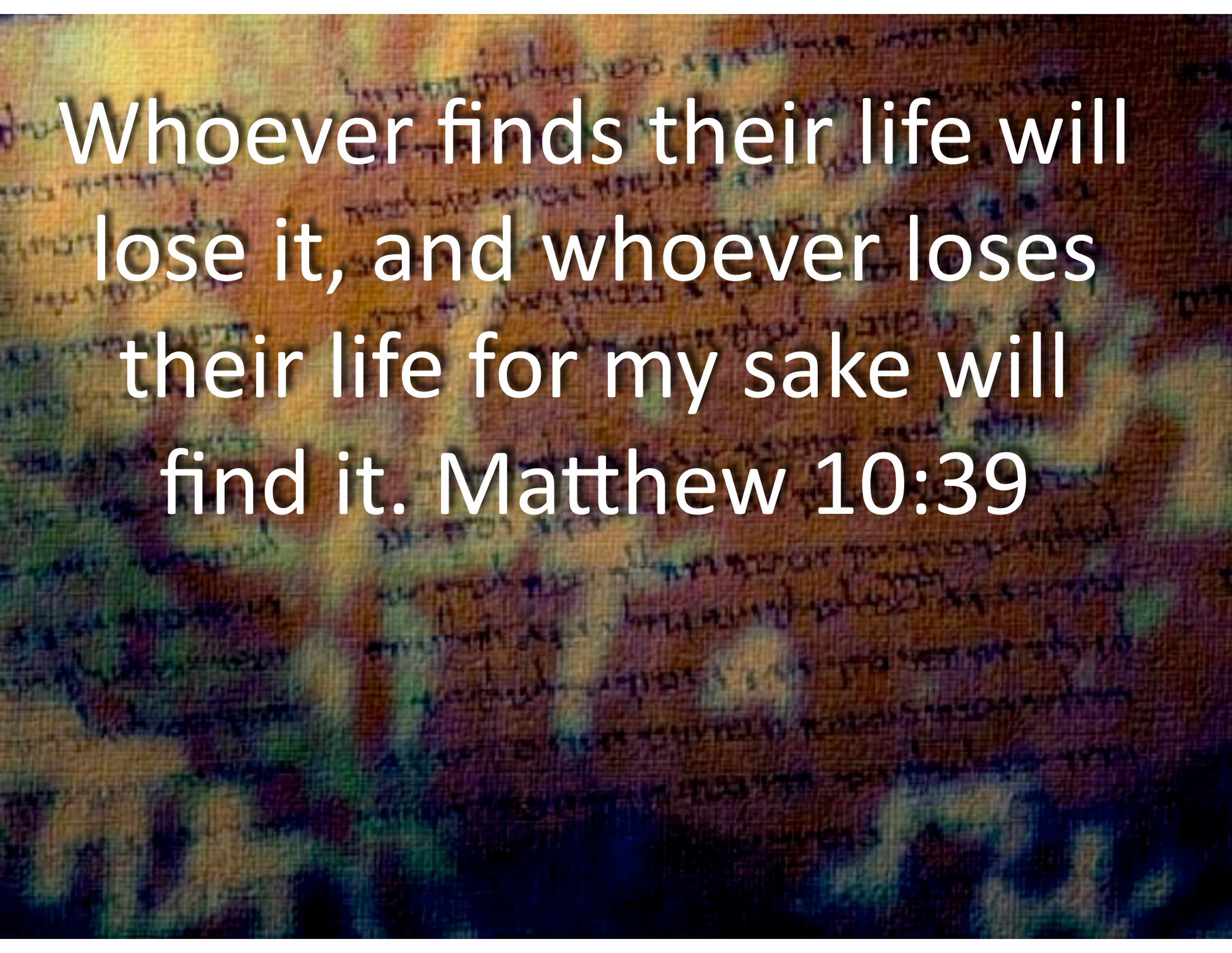




For God so loved the world  
that he gave his one and  
only Son, that whoever  
believes in him shall not  
perish but have eternal life.

John 3:16





Whoever finds their life will  
lose it, and whoever loses  
their life for my sake will  
find it. Matthew 10:39

