

Weekly Teaching

June 30, 2017

This week, Roseanne and I are blessed to celebrate our 30th wedding anniversary.

College sweethearts, we married right after graduation.

The advantage of marrying so young is that we had the opportunity to “grow up” together.

In the Torah, we are told that after God created the first human being, God then declared that “it is not good for a human being to be alone. I will make a fitting helper for them.”

And, thus God created Chavah to become Adam’s partner in life.

From this Biblical teaching, we learn that when we are lucky enough to find the individual who can be our “fitting helper,” we are then able to effectively address together our own human need for both companionship and partnership.

So important, and challenging, is the need to find the individual that helps makes us “whole.” Rabbinic tradition teaches that after God completed his Genesis creations, God then forever more has to spend most of his own Divine Band-Width so as to assist human beings in their quest to find their “intended” match.

That we understand God as our partner in attempting to discover our life-long love is certainly understandable. Sacred relationships are the means by which we introduce holiness into our own lives, and the lives that we have our relationships with.

Marriage is considered the most sacred of relationships; the definitive triangle of two human beings who become One with God.

One of my favorite rituals that I perform is the *Sephardic* custom under the *Chuppah* where I have the newly-consecrated married couple wrapped in the *tallit* and in this way offer to them their final wedding blessing.

The *Chuppah* traditionally represents the new home that the marital couple will now go and build for themselves.

The *Tallit* is the symbol of God’s “wings of protection;” the Divine walls that the new couple should be blessed to construct together within their new home.

As I wrap the newlyweds in the *Tallit*, I pray that they will continually be together in faithfulness and, with their constant efforts, assure their posture of holiness whereby God’s garments of light should all-encompass their home and they should be blessed to live in Shalom.

I pray that they should be blessed with a home that is filled with love and joy, companionship and partnership; a Holy Place where they will possess a special sense of peace and harmony within their lives.

For these past 30 years, I have been blessed with this great gift.

I thank God, and Roseanne, for granting me these sacred gifts.

Shabbat Shalom,

Rabbi Mitch

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