

Chapter 12

Beyond First Love: No Greater Love

ABSTRACT

The theme of this final chapter (no greater love) is the simple concept that, if the human species really cherishes this beautiful world, it will gladly give anything to save it. Instead, this species puts itself first, and holds that the “commercial prosperity” of just one vain and merciless species is more important than the biological survival of every other species. But imagine a people who sacrificed their kind to save life itself from perishing. Isn’t that a purpose worth setting aside global differences? Imagine perhaps the idea of no greater love is about to find a place in an imprescriptible history that illiterate kinds will benefit from forever. This species, more than any other species, may join together as one humble and reverent kind and make every effort toward saving this beautiful planet from its longitudinal yet incidental myopia.

INTRODUCTION

Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. - Jesus (John 15:13, KJV)

This theme, “no greater love,” is the simple concept that if humans really cherish this beautiful world, they will gladly give anything to save it. Nothing is more precious; nothing is of a higher priority. It is like the groom’s promise

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to his bride, to forsake all else because she is the one pearl of great price in all the world, and he would do anything for her. It is time now, a chance for humankind to be that groom. It is her time now, this beloved world's chance to shine and be the center of every attention. This is her Day.

Instead, the human species is like an unfaithful husband with a penchant for *narcissism* (Freud, 1957). The species is just a self-propagating paternalism whose spouse (the planet) is no more than an endearing trophy reminiscent of his stature and success (Meinecke, 2018c). Humans are like a loveless parent with an *authoritarian parenting style* (Darling, 1999). Humans are more concerned with using their offspring to agitate for the right to compete with men and control the *means of reproduction*—than to express a simple gratitude and mercy for those offspring (Goldberg, 2009; Meinecke, 2017). It does not seem urgent any more to simply hope to pass down a memory of how much one could not help but love one's husband, one's wife, one's children, one's world, while briefly here—so that, perchance, they might pass down their love for one another too (John 13:34; Gopnik, 2016). Humans put their doctrine first; they put themselves first; they put their estates first; they do not seem inclined to ask their lovely bride if she would like to be *first* for a change. Humans are a species whose own “prosperity” and “wellness” is more dear to them than the well-being of their beloved world. They would rather put their species' greed first (the craving for global sovereignty and imperishable prosperity of just one species), and let that discrete infinity of basic needs requested by every other species (save their own), glean what means for group survival or personal value they may (Lev. 19:10; Rieber, 1983; Ruth 2:10). Human vows are like those of a dissembling bachelor at the honest altar of his virgin bride, withholding his ability to give himself fully to save his beloved wife, so that he may simply wed another when this one wears out (Steinbeck, 2003). Though humans have more wealth and more options than any other creature on the planet, they make every other creature sign a prenuptial covenant before they vow to demonstrate their love for them at all.

But imagine a People who were willing to sacrifice their own *kind* to save Life (in all its *kinds*) from perishing? Isn't that a purpose worth setting aside these differences? Imagine a love so great, that a simple act of faith might save the world from its victor's folly? Let all things great and small sit down and reason together: No greater love hath any species than to lay down its pride for its pearl of great price—this sapphire earring the grateful call Home (John 15:13; Isa. 1:18; Matt. 13:46). Think about it: it's the *only* home for every species living today (so far as anyone knows), not just the

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