



Is Marriage Obsolete?

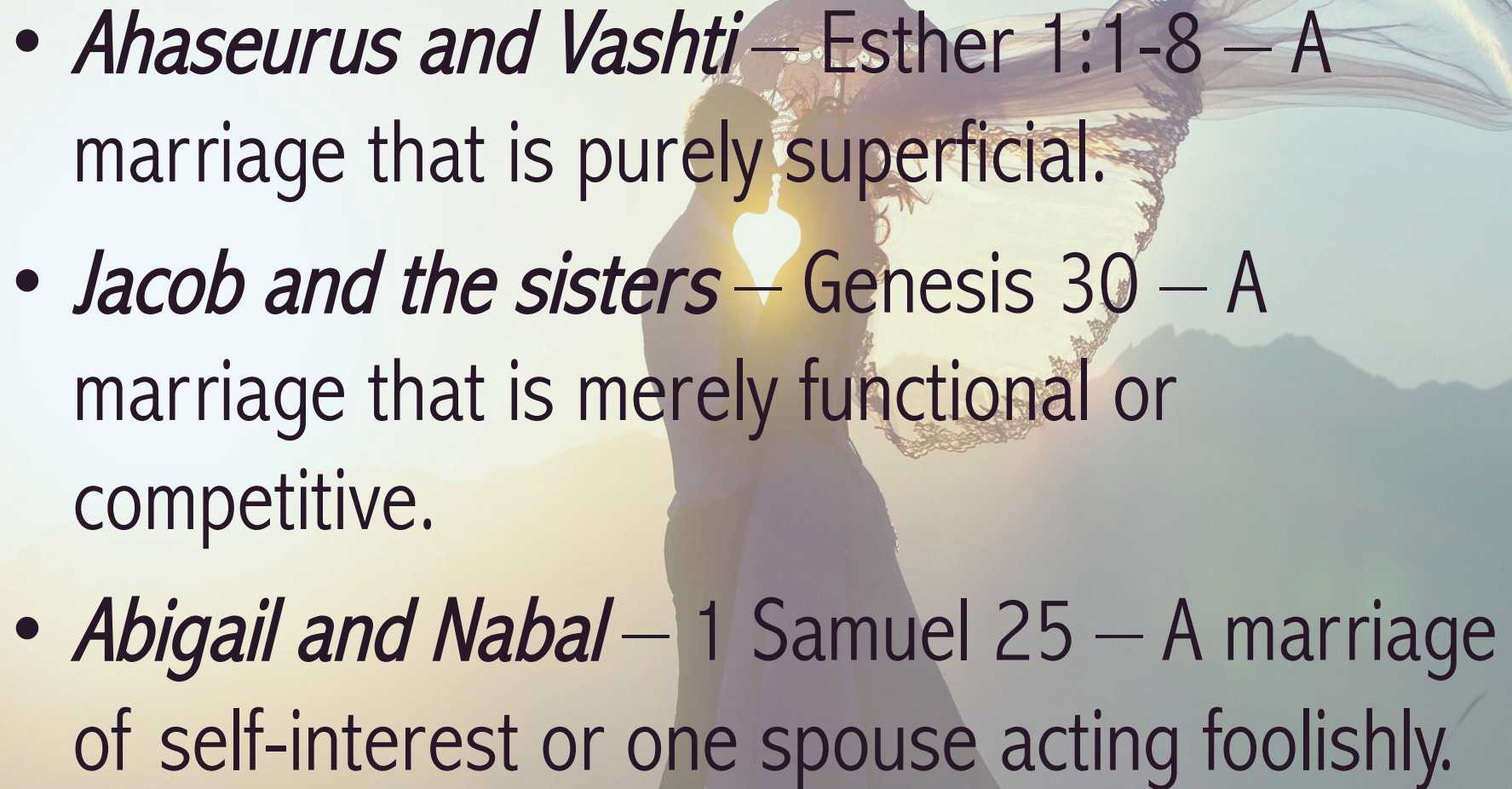
Obsolete?

- The question is not whether marriage itself is becoming obsolete, but what kind of marriages are prone to failure!
- *“Romantic love as we came to know it...is a modern phenomenon born out of the expanded leisure class. Centuries ago this was an option (or more like a dalliance or indulgence) of the nobility because only they had the time to indulge in it.”*

A romantic wedding scene at sunset. A couple is silhouetted against a large, bright sun. The woman is holding a large, ornate lace umbrella that is open. The background shows a hazy landscape with mountains and tall grass in the foreground.

Don't Forget

MARRIAGE WASN'T INVENTED YESTERDAY

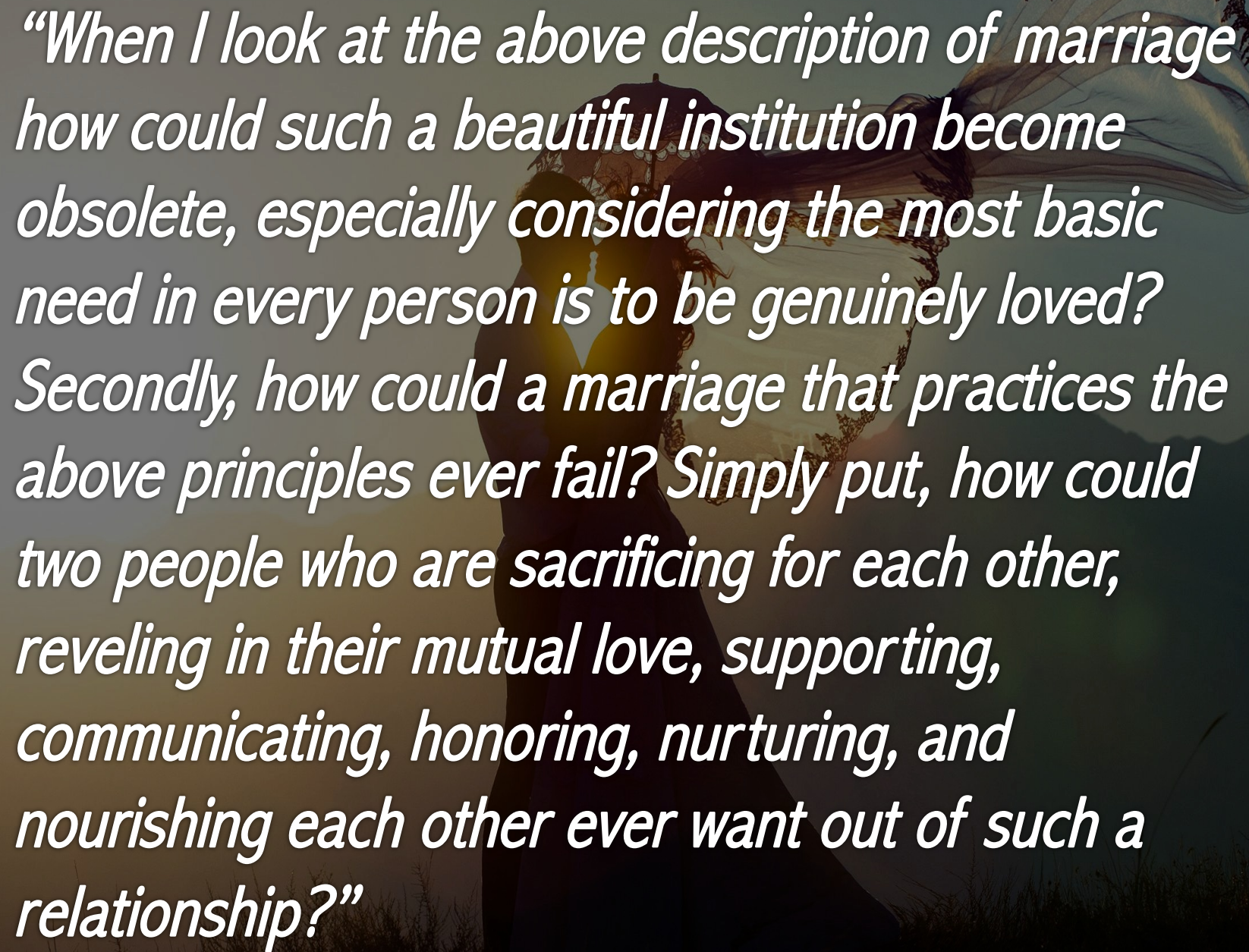
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- *Ahaseurus and Vashti* — Esther 1:1-8 — A marriage that is purely superficial.
 - *Jacob and the sisters* — Genesis 30 — A marriage that is merely functional or competitive.
 - *Abigail and Nabal* — 1 Samuel 25 — A marriage of self-interest or one spouse acting foolishly.

Marriages That Don't Work

Real Marriage

A romantic scene of a couple in wedding attire at sunset. The bride is wearing a white lace-trimmed veil and a long white gown. The groom is in a dark suit. They are standing close together, with the groom's hands on the bride's waist. The background shows a bright sunset over a mountain range, with the sun low on the horizon, creating a warm, golden glow. The couple's silhouettes are visible against the bright light.

- The man giving happiness (Deut. 24:5)
- Living joyfully (Ecc. 9:9)
- Intoxicated with love (Prov. 5:19)
- Rejoicing (5:18)
- Sacrifice (Eph. 5:25)
- Nourishing and cherishing (5:29)
- An expert on your spouse
- Support (Gen. 2:18)
- Does good all her days (Prov. 31:12)
- Respect (Eph. 5:33)
- Teaching the value of love (Titus 2:3-4)
- One flesh (Eph. 5:31)

A romantic couple is silhouetted against a warm, golden sunset sky. The man stands with his arms around the woman, who is holding a large, light-colored parasol. They are in a field with tall grass. The overall mood is romantic and serene.

“When I look at the above description of marriage how could such a beautiful institution become obsolete, especially considering the most basic need in every person is to be genuinely loved? Secondly, how could a marriage that practices the above principles ever fail? Simply put, how could two people who are sacrificing for each other, reveling in their mutual love, supporting, communicating, honoring, nurturing, and nourishing each other ever want out of such a relationship?”



A Lasting Marriage

- Divorce Yourself First
- Treat Each Other Like Company (1 Peter 3:7)
 - Treat Each Other Like Christians
 - Stop Listening To Culture
- Differences Do Not Drive People Apart