

וְנִי לִי יָדִיד וְיָדִיד לִי

"Behold, you are beautiful, my beloved; I was ashamed of my sin, but He encouraged me with appeasing words, saying, (Num. 14:20): "I have forgiven according to your words," behold, you are beautiful; your eyes are like doves. Behold, you are beautiful, my beloved; the beauty is not mine, but yours; you are the beautiful one.

(Shir HaShirim 1:15,16 with Rashi)

It is hard to comprehend *Klal Yisroel* arguing with Hashem's statement, "You are beautiful My wife," by saying, "No, we are not, You are the One who's beautiful." However, Rashi does not explain the words, "We are not beautiful," literally, rather, "The beauty is not ours, rather, it is Yours." Perhaps Rashi doesn't mean to say that we are denying our beauty, rather, we are merely saying that our beauty, expressed by our eternal fidelity to Hashem's love, does not originate from within ourselves, rather, the source of the love is Hashem Himself. As the pasuk states (Mishlei 27:19): "As water reflects one's face, so does one's heart reflect another's." When we saw how Hashem forgave our sin of the Golden Calf with all its severity, we felt the fidelity of His great love which we reflect back to Him in the form of a similarly eternal love. **The love, that we have, is not ours rather it is Yours.**

