

In this week's Parsha, the Ralbag tells us that we see the power of love from the way Yaakov Avinu prepared for his meeting with Esav as he was coming toward him with four hundred generals. The way to melt the heart of even a terrible enemy is through friendship. Yaakov sent Esav gifts and a message of friendship, and even though Esav hated Yaakov, as it says, "*Halacha hi beyadua sheEsav sonei l'Yaakov* – It is a known Halacha that Esav hates Yaakov," Esav was pacified even though he might have assumed that Yaakov was tricking him for a third time.

How much more so is the power of real, deep and genuine love, or even friendship to one deserving of it? It can melt anything; it can break any barriers. It is the key to the heart. From here we see that love is so powerful that even the possibility of it has the power to melt the most antagonistic heart.

From here we can also learn the importance of teaching the concepts found in Shir HaShirim even to Jews whose faith in Hashem is still infirm, for even the possibility of such a love will spur them on to seek out and ultimately find the plain truth of Torah.

