

TE MATE.

Hei te mate o te hunga tika he mate moku, kia rite hoki toku whakanutunga ki tona. Tau. 23. 10.

He aha te mate? Ko te wehenga o te wairua i te tinana, e mahue ai te tinana he mea tikanga kore he oncone. Kua haere te tangata ka takoto tahanga ko te anga. E mohio ana ia tangata ia tangata tera te ra kei te tu mai e riro ai ko te mate hei rangatira mona, otira tokohia ra kei te whakaaro mo te ra e mate ai ratou? Kahore he tangata e pai ana kia mate wawe ia, e mea ana ia ka rau rawa tona oranga i tenei ao, ko etahi o tona whakatupuranga hei mua i a ia mate ai, tena koea ka mate kaumatua.

Ahakea kore he whakapono o te tangata, kore ona whakaaro e ahu ki te Atua i te wa e kaha ana ia e ora ana tona tinana, otira i te mea ka mohio ia kua whakaritea o ona ra, ka ahu ona whakaaro ki te Atua he tani whakapono te tangata e noho nei ina tata te mate. I penei a Paraama. I mohio ia he matenga pai to te hunga tika, a i hiabihia ia kia pera hoki tona. He inoi na Paraama ta tatou rangi.

Kaore a Paraama i mahi i nga wa katoa i nga mea i whakahana e te Atua; i takahia e ia te kupu a te Atua. Waihoki he tini te tangata kei te ao nei kei te mahi ki te hara, he pononga he kai-mahi na te rewera, otira e mea ana ratou hei te ratou matenga me aroha mai te Atua ki a ratou, a me hari ratou ki te rangi. Ki ta ratou whakaaro he tamariki te Atua, e taetae e ratou te tinihanga. Tera ranei e kuare te tangata ki te utu i te tangata i mahi nei ki tetahi atu tangata koe? Ko te tangata ia nei e kore e raua, a ko te Atua kia raua? E te kai-korero, ki te hiabihia koe kia rite he matenga mou ki te matenga o te tangata tika, kia rite hoki to oranga ki to te tangata tika. Ma te ngakau maori noa tenei e whakahe ake e tika ana.

He nui nga tangata a mea ana he mea pai te mate, he "whitinga atu i te mate ki te ora," he urunga atu ki te ao maraui, ki te ao mae-kore. Ki taku whakaaro ia he mea kino rawa te mate, he mea weriweri. I kiia te mate e Paora ko te hoa-riri whakanutunga (1 Kor. 15. 26.) Ko wai te tangata e ahei te ki he mea ataahua te hoa-riri? He taonga nui whakabarahara ki te wahine tana tamaiti, e kore rawa ia e pai kia mate, e tino tupato ana ia hei pangia e te mate. Otira pangia ana e te mate, a riro atu ana, ka mahue te whaea ki muri tangi ai, aue ai, whakamomori ai; kihai rawa te mate i whakarongo ki tana tangi,

ki tana inoi kia waiho te hua o tona kopu. E kiia ranei te mate he mea ataahua? Kahore! He pai ranei te mate i patu mai nei i nga tamariki a te Whanau-a-Apanui, i te tangata i Inia, i Taranawaara, i Amerika? "Te hoa riri whakanutunga he mate."

Ki te Karaitiana ia, ki te tangata kua mura ona hara, he mea pai te mate, kahore ona wehi. I mohio a Paraama he mate pai to te tangata tika na reira ia i inoi ai kia pera hoki he matenga mona. Ki te Karaitiana he okiokinga te mate, he haerenga ki te wa katoa he haerenga kia kite i tona Matua, he kitekiteranga nga mea kua matua haere atu. (Hip. 4. 9; Whkite 14. 13; Hoa. 14. 2; Hip. 13. 14.) I koingo a Paora kia hohoro tona mate. "He hiabihia nei toku ki te haere, kia nolo ai ahau ki a te Karaiti; ko te mea tino pai rawa hoki ia." (Pirip. 1. 23.) I tona a Himiona kia tukua ia kia haere. "Katahi e te Atiki ka tukua tau pononga kia haere." Kororia te matenga o Tahana kei to to tenei Nama. I a Paranihi o Abihi ka tata te mate ka karanga, "Naumai e te tuahine e mate," ano te mate he whanaunga aroha i ngaro a ka hoki mai a io ki te tungane. I a Tianara Awberaka e whakahemohemo ana i tona taotutanga, ka mea, "Matakita ki to te Karaitiana matenga." I te kinga atu ki a Mihi Hawhekaru e kore ia e ora, ka maranga tona mahunga, katahi ka ki, "He tino pai rawa tenei korero mo te pono." To te Karaitiana tona matenga, he hari, he rangimarie, he wehi-kore. I hiabihia noa a Paraama kia pera hoki he matenga mona. E te kai-korero ka pehea tou matenga, e kore hoki e bapa to mate a tahi ra? Kei tomo pouri ra koe ki te mate, engari kia mohiotia ano te kinga hei taunga atu.

Ehara i te mea ko te rangimarie anake ta te Karaitiana i tona matenga, engari ko te whakamanamana ano hoki. I mea a Paora, "E te mate, kei hea ton wero? E te po, kei hea ton wikitoria? (1 Kor. 15. 55.) Kahore he wero o te mate ki te Karaitiana, kahore hoki ona wikitoria. I hinga te mate me te po i a te Karaiti i tona aranga mai i te mate; nona te wikitoriatanga, no te huaga hoki e whakawhirinaki ana ki a ia. Ko te mate ki te Karaitiana he moe (1 Teh. 4. 14.), e oho ake ai ko te oranga tonutanga, ko te kororia. (Hoa. 5. 29.) Tena ko te hunga whakapono kore, i a ratou e ora ana i tenei ao he taureka-reka ratou ki te wehi o te mate. (Hip. 2. 15.)

He kupu whakamutunga. E te hoa, e pehea koe a te wa e mate ai koe? E toa ranei? Ki te he to oranga, ka he to matenga