



The Greatest Commandment

Transforming our lives begins in the mind.
The first step is to follow God's greatest commandment.

Matt 22:37-38 "Jesus said to him, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the first and great commandment."



Why are we Commanded to Love God?

- Is it for His sake or for ours?
 - **Ecc1 12:13-14** *"Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep His commandments, For this is man's all. For God will bring every work into judgment, Including every secret thing, Whether good or evil."*
 - **1Tim 1:5** *"Now the purpose of the commandment is love from a pure heart, from a good conscience, and from sincere faith,"*
 - **1John 5:3** *"For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome."*
 - **Rev 22:14** *"Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city."*
 - Clearly God commands us to Love Him for our own good, that we may be partakers of His goodness and glory.



Love God Because He First Loved Us

- **1John 4:19** *"We love Him because He first loved us."*
- How has God loved us? Let me count the ways.
 - God has made me and given me breath
 - **Ps 104:30** *"You send forth Your Spirit, they are created; And You renew the face of the earth."*
 - **Isaiah 42:5** *"Thus says God the Lord, Who created the heavens and stretched them out, Who spread forth the earth and that which comes from it, Who gives breath to the people on it, And spirit to those who walk on it:"*
 - **Job 33:4** *"The Spirit of God has made me, And the breath of the Almighty gives me life."*



He Provides For All Flesh

- **Psalm 104:27-29** *"These all wait for You, That You may give them their food in due season. What You give them they gather in; You open Your hand, they are filled with good. You hide Your face, they are troubled; You take away their breath, they die and return to their dust."*
- **Psalm 136:25** *"Who gives food to all flesh, For His mercy endures forever."*
- **Psalm 147:7-9** *"Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; Sing praises on the harp to our God, Who covers the heavens with clouds, Who prepares rain for the earth, Who makes grass to grow on the mountains. He gives to the beast its food, And to the young ravens that cry."*
- **Matt 6:26** *"Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?"*
- **Acts 14:17** *"Nevertheless He did not leave Himself without witness, in that He did good, gave us rain from heaven and fruitful seasons, filling our hearts with food and gladness."*



He Protects Those Who Seek Him

- **Psalm 34:4-10**

4 I sought the Lord, and He heard me, And delivered me from all my fears.

5 They looked to Him and were radiant, And their faces were not ashamed.

6 This poor man cried out, and the Lord heard him, And saved him out of all his troubles.

7 The angel of the Lord encamps all around those who fear Him, And delivers them.

8 Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good; Blessed is the man who trusts in Him!

9 Oh, fear the Lord, you His saints! There is no want to those who fear Him.

10 The young lions lack and suffer hunger; But those who seek the Lord shall not lack any good thing.



He Bore My Sins

- **1Peter 2:24-25** *"who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness— by whose stripes you were healed. For you were like sheep going astray, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls."*
- **John 10:11** *"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep."*



He Has Forgiven My Many Sins

- **Luke 7:36-47** *"And Jesus answered and said to him, "Simon, I have something to say to you." So he said, "Teacher, say it." "There was a certain creditor who had two debtors. One owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. And when they had nothing with which to repay, he freely forgave them both. Tell Me, therefore, which of them will love him more?" Simon answered and said, "I suppose the one whom he forgave more." And He said to him, "You have rightly judged." Then He turned to the woman and said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave Me no water for My feet, but she has washed My feet with her tears and wiped them with the hair of her head. You gave Me no kiss, but this woman has not ceased to kiss My feet since the time I came in. You did not anoint My head with oil, but this woman has anointed My feet with fragrant oil. Therefore I say to you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven, for she loved much. But to whom little is forgiven, the same loves little.""*



He Gives Me Eternal Life

- **Titus 3:4-7** *"But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared, not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior, that having been justified by His grace we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life."*
- **Rom 6:23** *"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."*
- **1John 5:13** *"These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God."*



He Gives Me An Inheritance in Heaven

- **1Pet 1:3-4** " *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you,* "
- **Matt 6:19-21** " *"Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."*



Do We Love Those Who Love Us?

- *"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind."*
- *Because God Loves us:*
 - *He Provides for us*
 - *He Protects us*
 - *He Lifts us up*
 - *He Forgives our sins*
 - *He Prepares a place for us to live forever*
- *Do You Love God?*
- *Now is the time to commit with your whole heart, and follow Him!*