

The Most Important Commandment

There are 613 laws given in the Pentateuch.

Jesus takes the entire law and sums it up with **two statements about one word** “Love”

I. THE MOST IMPORTANT COMMANDMENT- **Mark 12:29-30**

Jesus answers the question “Which is the MOST IMPORTANT commandment of all?”

He did it by inserting that man must love God above everything else in this world.

WE ARE TO LOVE THE LORD SUPREME!

A. With All Of Our Heart:

Our love for Christ must be authentic...

B. With All Of Our Soul:

Here Jesus is referring to our emotions.

C. With All Of Our Mind:

We must make a conscious choice to love the Lord.

D. With All Of Our Strength:

II. THE SECOND IS EQUALLY IMPORTANT **Mark 12:31**

These two commandments are entwined; you cannot have one without the other.

We are to be constantly looking out for the best interests of others. **Philippians 2:3-4**

This love manifests itself when we exhibit

Forgiveness, peace, unity, compassion to others.

1 John 4:20-21

It doesn't get any clearer than that!

If you say that you are a Christian and have hate in your heart, you are a LIAR!

According to this verse it is impossible to do both!

III. THE EXTENT OF THE GREAT COMMANDMENT **Mark 12:31**

‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’

The Greek word used here is Agape.

Agape - refers to a never-ending, unchanging, all-consuming love for someone.-

Agape love is not the kind of feeling that appears for a time then changes.

Agape love is forever!

It is a love that loves without regard for the worth of the object being loved.

Romans 5:8 illustrates “Agape” love

Matthew 22:37-40

Jesus said “If you love me, keep my commandments”

If we “Love the Lord with all of our heart, soul, mind and strength: -

We will obey the other commandments.

1 Corinthians 13:1-3

Do you love God with all that is in you?

Do you love your neighbor as yourself?

IF NOT THEN YOU HAVE A LOT TO THINK ABOUT!

LOVE - [AGAPE LOVE] - MUST BE A PRIORITY...

IT MUST BE THE FIRST PRIORITY...

FOR WITHOUT LOVE, NOTHING ELSE WILL MATTER!