

Simple pt 2

The GOAT Commandments

Mark 12:28–34

One of the scribes approached. When he heard them debating and saw that Jesus answered them well, he asked him, “Which command is the most important of all?”

29 Jesus answered, “The most important is Listen, Israel! The Lord our God, the Lord is one. 30 Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. 31 The second is, Love your neighbor as yourself., There is no other command greater than these.”

32 Then the scribe said to him, “You are right, teacher. You have correctly said that he is one, and there is no one else except him. 33 And to love him with all your heart, with all your understanding, and with all your strength, and to love your neighbor as yourself, is far more important than all the burnt offerings and sacrifices.”

34 When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, “You are not far from the kingdom of God.” And no one dared to question him any longer.

Love is an outcome of knowing God better.

Love is the only reliable motivation for faithfulness to God.

John 14:15

“If you love me, you will keep my commands.

"If you love, you will unconsciously fulfill the whole law. And you can readily see for yourselves how that must be so. Take any of the commandments. "Thou shalt have no other gods before Me." If a person loves God, you will not need to tell him that. Love is the fulfilling of that law. "Take not His name in vain." Would someone who loves God ever dream of taking His name in vain? "Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy." Those who truly love God are only too glad to have one day in seven to dedicate more exclusively to Him. Love would fulfill all these laws regarding God."¹ —Henry Drummond

Love is the ultimate responsibility we have to our neighbor.

3 Ways To Love God And Our Neighbors

Since truth is so important, let's speak the truth in love.

Ephesians 4:14–15

Then we will no longer be little children, tossed by the waves and blown around by every wind of teaching, by human cunning with cleverness in the techniques of deceit. ¹⁵ But speaking the truth in love, let us grow in every way into him who is the head—Christ.

Neighbors struggle all around us, let's meet needs with love.

¹ Drummond, Henry. The Greatest Thing in the World (p. 13). Barbour Publishing, Inc.. Kindle Edition.

1 John 3:17–18

If anyone has this world's goods and sees a fellow believer in need but withholds compassion from him—how does God's love reside in him? ¹⁸ Little children, let us not love in word or speech, but in action and in truth.

Our city needs God's intervention, let's pray for it with love.