

FIRST LOVE

Scripture of the Month: Matthew 22:37-40

Jesus replied: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.”^[a]

³⁸ This is the first and greatest commandment.

³⁹ And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’^[b]

⁴⁰ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.

Title: First Love

Topic: Greatest Commandment

PRIMARY TEXT: Matthew 22:34-38

Hearing that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, the Pharisees got together.

³⁵ One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question:

³⁶ “Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?”

³⁷ Jesus replied: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.”^[a]

³⁸ This is the first and greatest commandment.

KEY THOUGHT—LOVE GOD WITH AN OBEDIENT HEART, A SOUL OF WONDER AND MIND OF HOLY CURIOSITY

I. HEART –center or core of the personality.

“In Hebrew, the word means ‘the kernel of the nut.’ Your heart reflects your true identity.”

(Gods At War, Kyle Idleman, 31)

“Obedience to God is the most infallible evidence of sincere and supreme love to him.” --Nathanael Emmons (1001 Unforgettable Quotes About God, Faith & The Bible, Ron Rhodes, 162)

James 1:22 Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says

II. SOUL

“Evelyn Underhill has defined worship as the “total adoring response of man to the one Eternal God, self revealed in time.” (Real Worship, Warren W. Wiersbe, 21)

Wonder (the curriculum is creation)

Loving God with our soul means a soul of wonder and worship, “a soul flooded with the glory of God, a soul awed by beauty and mystery, a soul that hallows God above all else.” (Primal, Mark Batterson, 52)

Revelation 8:1

When he opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour.

III. MIND

Paul the great theologian.--Who talks about having our minds transformed.

“The New Testament Greek word translated as ‘disciple’ comes from a root that means ‘learner.’”

(Primal, Mark Batterson, 107)

“Never lose a holy curiosity.” --Albert Einstien

2 Corinthians 10:5 We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.