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Section: Commands (Law)

Teacher: Rob Barber

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**HANDOUT NOTES**

**Q42. What are the greatest commandments?**

First, to love God. And second, to love our neighbor.

M**atthew 22:34-40** But when the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together. And one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?" And he said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.”

**Deuteronomy 6:4-5** "Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

**Matthew 23:23-24** "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint and dill and cumin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faithfulness. These you ought to have done, without neglecting the others. You blind guides, straining out a gnat and swallowing a camel!

**1 Corinthians 13:1-3** If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing.

* **What Is Love?**

**Romans 13:9** For the commandments, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

**1 John 4:8** Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.

* **To Love God Is the Great and First Commandment**

**Luke 14:26** "If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple.”

**1 John 4:20-21** If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.

**Q43. How should we love God?**

We love God with all our heart and with all our soul and with all our mind. We do this by trusting in Jesus, enjoying Him, treasuring Him, growing in our knowledge of Him, believing His words, obeying His commands, and showing and telling the world how great He is.

* **We Are to Love God With All Our Heart**

**Genesis 6:5** The Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

**Jeremiah 17:9** The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it?

**1 John 4:19** We love because he first loved us.

**Romans 5:8** but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

* **We Love God by Trusting in Jesus and Believing His Words**

**Ephesians 1:16-19a** I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe,

**Colossians 1:9-10** And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him: bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God.

* **We Love God by Keeping His Commands**

**John 14:15** [Jesus said] If you love me, you will keep my commandments.

**John 15:10-11** If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

**1 John 5:3** For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome.

* **We Love God by Showing and Telling the World How Great He Is**

**Romans 1:16a** For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes