

## The Foremost Commandment

Mark 12:28-34

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- What is the most important command of God?
- The one you're not keeping! Luke 18:18-23
- There are "weightier" provisions of God's word. Matthew 23:23
- Jesus said it was: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart ... all your soul ... all your mind ... and all your strength."

### Love God with all of our heart, soul, strength and mind.

- First note that our relationship with God is above all else. Before we can worry about our relationship with anyone else, we must begin with our relationship with God. **1 John 1:3**

## All Our Heart – *Emotionally*

Undivided loyalty and affection

God's call for service with a whole heart.

1 Chronicles 28:9; 1 Kings 8:61; 2 Kings 20:3

A lack of undivided interest

1 Kings 11:4; 15:3; 2 Kings 14:3-4

Paul sought "undistracted devotion."

1 Corinthians 7:35

Need to be aware when our heart goes after other things.

Titus 2:14; Acts 20:32; Luke 14:18; Matthew 10:37

## All Our Mind - *Intellectually*

We won't rely on our own understanding. Proverbs 3:5; 2 Kings 5:11; Proverbs 14:12

Every thought belongs to God. 2 Corinthians 10:5

What are we to think about?

Philippians 4:8; Romans 12:1-2; 8:6

## All Our Mind - *Intellectually*

Loving God with all our minds...

–Morally – Ephesians 4:20-24; Matthew 5:27-28

–Doctrinally – Acts 17:1-2, 17; Acts 18:4; Acts 19:8; 2 Timothy 2:15

Avoiding intellectual dishonesty

2 Timothy 2:15

How can we be intellectually dishonest with God's word?

- Not using scripture to defend our argument.
  - Ignoring passages you know deal with a particular subject.
  - Intentionally twisting scriptures to fit your position.
  - Not answering scriptural arguments.
- 2 Corinthians 11:3; Ephesians 4:14

### All Our Strength – *Physically*

- Our life in the flesh belongs to God.
- Loving God with all our strength depends on what we do with our time. Ephesians 5:15-17; Colossians 4:5
- Are we ever “too tired” to serve God? 2 Corinthians 12:15
- God is our supplier. 1 Peter 4:11; Isaiah 40:28-31
- Beyond time, what about our talents and abilities? Matthew 25:14-30
- Don't waste it! Judges 16

### 5 Truths About Time

- **First:** *Nobody can control time*
- **Second:** *Time is expensive*
- **Third:** *Time is both perishable & irreplaceable*
- **Fourth:** *Time is equitable*
- **Fifth:** *Time is a priority*

### All Our Soul – *In Our Entire Being*

- We're to be transformed living sacrifices – Romans 12:1-2
- No longer I who lives – Galatians 2:20
- How do we see ourselves? Luke 18:9-14
- Learn from Paul – Philippians 3:7-14; Galatians 6:14
- Will we give ourselves to the Lord? 2 Corinthians 8:5

### All Our Heart, Soul, Strength & Mind

- Are we committed and decided?
- Or are we still “double-minded”? James 1:8; Ephesians 4:16
- Are we still trying to straddle the fence? 1 Kings 18:21; Joshua 24:15

### All Our Heart, Soul, Strength & Mind

**What does this person look like?**

- **Philippians 3:13-14** – he focuses on one thing
- **1 Corinthians 9:24-27** – he runs to win
- **Matthew 6:33** – he seeks God first
- **Ephesians 4:20-24** – he lays aside & puts on
- **Romans 6:12-18** – he is a slave to righteousness
- **1 John 5:3; John 14:15** – he gives joyful obedience