

“THE FIRST AND GREAT COMMANDMENT”

BY: PASTOR TIMOTHY GREEN

When Jesus was asked, “What is the greatest commandment in the Law?” He doesn’t hesitate. He doesn’t say, “They are all important.” He doesn’t ask, “Why are you asking?” He responds quickly, with a strong clear answer and He responds emphatically.

Matthew 22:37-38 Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment.

The most important commandment, the reason you were created and are alive today is very simply, to love God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength!

What God wants from us more than anything else is our love. He wants to be a priority. He wants us to love Him in return for His love for us. He wants to be wanted.

Do you love God today? How much do you love Him? Do you love Him like He wants to be loved? Do you love Him with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind? Do you love Him with everything that is within you?

God wants us to love Him. Passionately. Affectionately. Obediently.

The essence of the Bible is not a bunch of dos and don’ts. It’s not all about rules and regulations. It’s not about religious rituals and traditions of men.

The Bible is sixty-six love letters, words from God to His creation.

Augustine once wrote, “Love God and do what you please.” His point was this. If you love God, you will want to please Him.

In response to a question about why and how God is to be loved, someone else wrote, “The reason for loving God is God himself, and the measure in which we should love Him is to love Him without measure.”

The greatest commandment is “Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.”

Not half-hearted, not with a lukewarm love, not a casual and convenient love. Wholehearted love. Passionate love. Love God with all that you are. That is the first and greatest commandment.