

WHAT IS THE
GREATEST
COMMANDMENT?





Matthew 22:36-38

“Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?” Jesus replied: “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the greatest and most important command.”

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“The Great *Shema*”

Deuteronomy 6:4-5

*Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. **Love** the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.*

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Context: Religious Polytheism

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Deuteronomy 6:4-5

*Hear, O Israel: The LORD our
God is Lord alone!*

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Deuteronomy 6:4-5

***Love** the LORD your God with
all your heart and with all
your soul and with all your
strength.*

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LOVE

This is a statement of
unreserved, whole life
LOYALTY to God alone.

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Ephesians 1:20-23

God raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every title that can be given, not only in the present age but also in the one to come.

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Ephesians 1:20-23

And God placed **ALL THINGS** under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

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LOVING God=
LOYALTY to Christ as Lord
alone in every area of our lives.

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“Truth is what your contemporaries let you get away with.”

-Philosopher Richard Rorty

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“Will Christianity work for me? In the very long run, following Jesus will work and bring you to glory, and abandoning Jesus will not work and bring you to ruin. But in the short run it may lead to ostracism, persecution or other kinds of suffering.”

-Tim Keller

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“Lordship of Christ was a deeply subversive claim that effectively undermined the rule of Caesar. The Christians wanted to bring all of life under the lordship of Jesus, and that meant subverting the lordship of Caesar. The emperors understood this all too clearly; hence, the terrible persecutions that followed.”

-Alan Hirsch

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Three Evaluation Questions:

#1 Am I willing to follow Jesus even if it costs me something?

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Three Evaluation Questions:

#2 Am I willing to believe whatever God says, regardless how I feel about it?

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Three Evaluation Questions:

#3 Am I willing to put what is
right above what works?

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Two Motivations to be Loyal to Jesus

#1 We have a Perfect,
Empowering Savior

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Two Motivations to be Loyal to Jesus

#2 The Longview

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