

The Bulletin

Meeks Street Church of Christ

1201 Meeks St. Corinth, Ms. 38834

Phone – (662) 808-7777

Visit Our Website at:
MeeksstreetchurchofChrist.com

August 6, 2023

“Loving God With All We Have”

By David A. Cox

“Jesus said to him, *‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind’*” (Matthew 22:37)

Matthew tells about a lawyer who comes to Jesus wanting to know, *“Which is the great commandment in the law?”* Jesus responds by quoting Deuteronomy 6:4-5. At this point in the life of Jesus, He has raised Lazarus from the dead, He entered Jerusalem for His final week before the cross. The answer here is not something new. Even earlier in Luke 10, Jesus gives the same response to another lawyer. In both cases, the questions were asked by those with agendas to promote. What does Jesus mean by loving God with all we have?

Love God with All Our Heart.

“All of me loves all of God,” is what Jesus is saying. What does loving God with all look like? When we love God with all, it does not mean that God has a special place in my heart. God does not want a compartment of your heart; He wants it all. If we love the Lord with all our hearts, what is left?

It may be that we may think that God is asking for something that is not possible. God does not require the impossible from man. He sent His only Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

However, we must all admit that God makes it very clear and repeatedly makes this statement known. Solomon even wrote that the whole of one’s life is to *“fear God and Keep His commandments, For this is man’s all”* (Ecclesiastes 12:13). So the fact is clear, God wants all of man to love Him with all.

Do Not Hold Anything Back.

To love God with all our hearts, we must not hold anything back from our service to Him. We clearly can see that God did not hold anything back from us to free us from our sins, and Jesus did not stop short of what was required to bring about our salvation. It is because of God’s gift of Himself to come to earth (John 1:1-3, 14-15) that should motivate us to give ourselves wholly to Him.

Because of God’s sacrifice, we have the opportunity to be the children of God (1 John 3:1). God is our Father, and we can partake of His divine nature (2 Peter 1:4). What wondrous love, mercy, and grace we have available to us. The opportunity to go to live with God in heaven forever and ever.

How Can I Show My Full-Hearted Love for God?

We must remember that biblical love is not just mere feelings but is expressed and manifested through our actions. Why do we know God loves us? He sent His Son to die for us (John 3:16); that is active, biblical love.

Our love for God will be expressed and reflected in our priorities in our lives (Colossians 3:1-3). It will be seen in the denial of myself and the allurements of the world and life as a “living sacrifice” that is acceptable to God (Romans 12:1-2).

This life will be focused on the scriptures and living according to them. A life centered around the rule, reign, and dominion of Christ in my life (Matthew 6:33). There will be a difference in my life by showing worship as its focus, encouraging others in their walk with God, and telling others about the message of Jesus Christ.

God is worthy of all that we have to offer, and He alone is the One who deserves all that we have and all that we are. Yes, we live in this life, but let us not lose sight of what this life is about and the focus on which we should live.

“Honoring God”

By J Waddey

Children are expected to honor their father and mother (Deuteronomy 5:16). Servants must honor their master (Malachi 1:6). Christians are expected to honor God and Christ his Son (John 5:23). *"Honor and majesty are before Him"* (I Chronicles 16:27).

We honor God by being respectful of His person and His name. We must not take His name in vain (Exodus 20:7). We honor God by cheerfully obeying His divine will (Ex 19:5). We honor God by treating with solemn care, His church, His Word, His standards of righteousness. We honor Him when we lead our family and our neighbors to obey and serve Him. Jesus said, *"If any man serve me, him will the father honor"* (John 12:26).

We honor God when we worship as He has directed. He rebuked the Hebrews, saying *"Neither has (thou) honored me with your sacrifices..."* (Isaiah 43:23). Solomon taught his sons to *"Honor Jehovah with thy substance, and with the first-fruits of all thine increase"* (Prov. 3:9).

We honor God when we sing His praises. *"Sing for the honor of his name"* (Psalm 66:2 KJV). *"My mouth shall be filled with thy praise, and with thy honor all the day"* (Psalm 71:8).

Like the heavenly host we should sing, *"Worthy art thou, our Lord and our God, to receive the glory and honor and power: for thou did create all things..."* (Rev. 4:11).

We should honor Jehovah by conducting ourselves in a way that honors him. Thus Paul says, *"If a man therefore purge himself from these (worldly, sinful deeds), he shall be a vessel unto honor, sanctified and fit for the master's use"* (II Timothy 2:21).

God asked the Hebrews of Malachi's day, *"A son honoreth his father, and a servant his master: if I am a father, where is mine honor? And if I am a master, where is my fear, saith Jehovah?"* (Malachi 1:6). God wants the honor we pay Him to be genuine and sincere. *"Forasmuch as this people draw nigh unto me with their mouth and with their lips do honor me, but have removed their heart far from me"* (Isaiah 29:13).

When God created man, he "made him but little lower than God, and crowned him with glory and honor" (Ps. 8:5). When we honor God he will honor us. *"Jehovah saith... for them that honor me, I will honor; and they that despise me shall be lightly esteemed"* (I Samuel 2:30). *"A man's pride shall bring him low; But he that is of a lower spirit shall obtain honor"* (Prov. 29:23). He want us to live an honorable life and respect others who do the same. Our Lord wants us to *"honor them that fear Jehovah"* (Psalm 15:4).

How do think God views those who discount His, Word saying, "He has not give us a pattern to follow," when the Scripture plainly tells to "hold the pattern of sound words" from the Apostle (II Tim. 1:13). What of those who say, Christ has no law for us, only a love-letter such as our mother might write?, when Paul tells us to fulfil the law of Christ (Gal. 6:10) and James speaks of the "Perfect law of liberty" that we should obey (James 1:25)

How would God judge those who seek to turn the sacred memorial of Christ's death into a jolly fellowship meal (I Cor. 11:23-29). What would He say to those who refuse to accept His prohibition on women filling leadership roles in the assemblies of the Church (1 Cor. 14:33-34; I Tim. 2:11-12).

What would God think of those who reject his instruction to sing and make melody with their hearts (Eph. 5:19) and without Christ's authority, play their man-made musical instruments when they praise God?

Do you think God will honor those who sow discord among his people, for whom Christ died? Solomon tells us God hates those who do this (Prov. 6:1619).

If you hope to be honored by Jehovah, remember that he only " honors them that honor him. Those who despise Him, he will lightly esteem" (I Sam. 2:30).



Memory Verse of the Week:

1 Corinthians 4:17 (NKJB)

"For this reason I have sent Timothy to you, who is my beloved and faithful son in the Lord, who will remind you of my ways in Christ, as I teach everywhere in every church."

News and Notes:

Sick and recovering: Tim Harris Sr, Tim Harris Jr, Daniel Holloway, Debbie Keplinger, Robbie, Sheila, Sherry Doles, Sandi Poole, Nathan Cox, Sandra Oliver, Chad Harris, Eli Johnson, Burt Ward, Jamie Jones, Janet Boren, Fred Johnson, Todd Bryan, Alton Bailey, Joe Shane, Bill Woodall, Mary Ann Holley, and Anita Harris.

Those Who Serve:

Sunday Morning 9:00 A.M. Service:

Opening Prayer: Fred Johnson
Preaching: Brian Meade
Sermon #1: "By What Authority?"

Auditorium Bible Class: 9:35am:

Workbook: Fred Johnson
1 & 2 Thessalonians
Author: Mark Mayberry
Starting Page & Question: Page # 24, Question #11

Sunday Morning 10:30 A.M. Service:

Announcements: Doug George
Opening Prayer & Scripture Reading: Russell Briggs
Scripture Reading: Psalm 51:12-14
Song Leader: Adam Harris
Lord's Supper: Paul Johnson
Assisting: — —
Preaching: Brian Meade
Sermon #2: "Restoring What David Lost"
Closing Prayer: Paul Busby

Wednesday Evening: 7:00 P.M.

August 9, 2023

Auditorium Bible Class: Paul Busby
Workbook: Ezekiel
Author: Dan King
Starting Page & Question: Page # 70, Question #10
Invitation: Brian Meade
Song Leader: Adam Harris
Closing Prayer: Russell Briggs



Visit our YouTube Channel:

Meeks Street Church of Christ https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCgiXJxZC1oraOugO9qlfBtw?view_as=subscriber

And Our Facebook Page.

For sermon videos, articles, and announcements.

“By What Authority?”

Lesson Text: **Matthew 21:23-27.**

I. The Need For Divine Authority In Our Service To God.

- The Chief Priests And Elders Question Were Not Wrong In Asking.... But A Misunderstanding.
 - Notice Jesus Didn't Say Anything About Being Legalist, Pharisaical, Or Wrong!
 - Just What They Were Asking: Who Gave You The Permission Or Right To Act?
 - **exousia**: “Power of choice, liberty of doing as one pleases; leave or permission.”
Thayer, J. H. (1889).
- What Was This Question Referring To? **Matthew 21:12-17.**
- The Two Sources Of Authority Of John's Baptism (**vs. 25-27**):
 - **From Heaven**- Was John Acting With Permission And The Right To Act From God?
 - **From Men**- Was John Acting With Permission And The Right To Act From Men?
 - They Realized Their Dilemma And Refused To Answer— John Really Was A Prophet Acting Under God's Authority, And They Did Not Believe Him- **Luke 7:29-30.**
- From This Encounter, We Learn:
 1. Authority Is Needed.
 2. The Only Right Authority Is From God—Not Men.
 3. Why? When We Follow Man's Authority, We Are Not Following God's Authority.
 4. We Must Follow God's Direction And Instructions like Jesus- **John 12:48-50.**
 - **Matthew 28-18-20; Isaiah 8:20; 1 Peter 4:11**
 - **Philippians 2:5-11** (Name = Authority); **Colossians 3:17.**
 - God's Word Is Our Guide And Authority- **2 Timothy 3:16-17.**

II. By What Authority Do We Act On Today?

- The Creeds And Church Manuals Written By Men.
 - **1 Corinthians 1:10; Colossians 2:20-23.**
- The Traditions Formulated By Men.
 - **2 Thessalonians 2:15; Mark 7:7-13; Colossians 2:8.**
- What The Preacher Says...”My Preacher Says It's Alright.”
 - **1 Peter 4:11; 2 Timothy 4:2-3.**
- The Overseers Of A Local Church.
 - **1 Peter 5:1-4; Hebrews 13:17.**
- What The Majority Wants To Do.
 - **Exodus 32; 1 Samuel 8; 1 Samuel 15:15; 24.**
- The Individual's Choice Or “I Don't See Anything Wrong With It.”
 - **Judges 21:25; Ephesians 1:22-23.**
- The Bible Doesn't Say Not To Do This.
 - God's Silence Prohibits Additions- **Heb. 7:12-14; Leviticus 10:1-3; 2 Samuel 6:3-7.**
- What Others Are Doing In Religion. **1 Samuel 6:7-8; 2 Cor. 10:12; 1 Cor. 4:17.**
- “Look At The Good This Accomplishes.” **Romans 3:8.**

“Restoring What David Lost”

Lesson Text: **Psalm 51:1-17.**

- This Is A Prayer Of David To Restore The Joy In Serving Jehovah!
- David Needed This Revival Because Of His Sin And What Was Missing...
- Two Parts Of The Prayer: **1.** The Request. **2.** The Promise.

I. The Request David Asks Of God.

- **Vs. 1- Psalm 103:2-4; Jeremiah 9:24; Isaiah 44:21-22; Colossians 2:14.**
- **Vs. 2- Jeremiah 33:8; Ezekiel 36:33; Hebrews 9:14; 1 John 1:7; 9.**
- **Vs. 3- Jeremiah 3:12-13; 14:20; Luke 15:17-24; Psalm 32:5.**
- **Vs. 4- 2 Samuel 12:13; Romans 3:4.**
- **Vs. 5- Psalm 58:3; Isaiah 48:8.**
- **Vs. 6- Psalm 119:37-40; Romans 12:2.**
- **Vs. 7- Leviticus 14:4; Isaiah 1:18.**
- **Vs. 8- Psalm 32:1-4; Isaiah 35:10; Psalm 32:10-11; 2 Samuel 12:5-9.**
- **Vs. 9- Jeremiah 16:17; Psalm 90:8; Micah 7:19.**
- **Vs. 10- Ezekiel 18:31; Why? Psalm 24:3-5; 2 Corinthians 5:17.**
- **Vs. 11- What Sin Does- Isaiah 59:1-2; Genesis 3:23-24; 1 Sam. 18:12 (16:14).**
- **Vs. 12- The Theme Of Our Lesson!; Psalm 18:35.**

Notes: _____

II. The Promise David Makes With God.

- **Vs. 13- He Couldn't Do It Before His Restoration; Luke 22:32; Psalm 19:7-8.**
- **Vs. 14- 2 Samuel 12:9; Psalm 71:14-16.**
- **Vs. 15- Psalm 9:13-14; 35:9-10.**
- **Vs. 16- Psalm 15:22; You Can Bring Gifts, But Not Your Heart- Amos 5:22-24.**
- **Vs. 17- Isaiah 57:15. God Wants Our Hearts! Joel 2:12-13.**

Notes: _____

