

Love is the Answer

May 7, 2020

Mark 12:28-34, *“What commandment is the foremost of all?”* ²⁹ Jesus answered, *“The foremost is, ‘Hear, O Israel! The Lord our God is one Lord;’* ³⁰ *and you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.’* ³¹ *The second is this, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.”* ³² *The scribe said to Him, “Right, Teacher; You have truly stated that He is One, and there is no one else besides Him;”* ³³ *and to love Him with all the heart and with all the understanding and with all the strength, and to love one’s neighbor as himself, is much more than all burnt offerings and sacrifices.”* ³⁴ *When Jesus saw that he had answered intelligently, He said to him, “You are not far from the kingdom of God.” “After that, no one would venture to ask Him any more questions.”*

Deuteronomy 6:4-5, *“Hear, O Israel! The Lord is 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.”*

Jesus’ answer points to three key principles:

- 1. It’s not about our love for God, but God’s love for us.**
- 2. We are to respond to God’s love with devotion.**
- 3. Our gratitude towards God is expressed in how we love others.**

1 John 4:10-11, *“In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.”*

Matthew 7:3-5, *“Why do you look at the speck that is in your brother’s eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? Or how can you say to your brother, ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye.’ And behold, the log is in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother’s eye.”*

John 13:34-35, *“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”*

Romans 5:5, “Hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who was given to us.”

1 Corinthians 13:4-7, “Love is patient, love is kind and is not jealous; love does not brag and is not arrogant, ⁵ does not act unbecomingly; it does not seek its own, is not provoked, does not take into account a wrong suffered, ⁶ does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth; ⁷ bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.”

Songs:

Anywhere with Jesus

Anywhere with Jesus I can safely go, anywhere He leads me in this world below
Anywhere without Him dearest joys would fade; anywhere with Jesus I am not afraid
Chorus: Anywhere, anywhere! Fear I cannot know, anywhere with Jesus I can safely go.
Anywhere with Jesus I am not alone; other friends may fail me, He is still my own
Tho His hand may lead me over drearest ways, anywhere with Jesus is a house of praise
Repeat Chorus

No One Ever Cared for Me like Jesus

I would love to tell you what I think of Jesus, since I found in Him a friend so strong and true
I would tell you how He changed my life completely, He did something that no other friend could do.
*Chorus: No one ever cared for me like Jesus, there's no other friend so kind as He
No one else could take the sin and darkness from me, O how much He cared for me*
Every day He comes to me with new assurance, more and more I understand His words of love
But I'll never know just why He came to save me, till some day I see His blessed face above
Repeat Chorus

He Touched Me

Shackled by a heavy burden, 'neath a load of guilt and shame,
Then the hand of Jesus touched me, and now I am no longer the same
*Chorus: He touched me, oh, He touched me, and oh, the joy that floods my soul
Something happened, and now I know, He touched me and made me whole*
Since I met this blessed Savior, since He cleansed and made me whole
I will never cease to praise Him, I'll shout it while eternity rolls
Repeat Chorus

I Gave My Life for Thee

I gave My life for thee, My precious blood I shed, that thou might'st ransomed be,
And quickened from the dead, I gave, I gave My life for thee, what hast thou given for Me?
And I have brought to thee, down from My home above, salvation full and free
My pardon and My love, I bring, I bring rich gifts to thee, what hast thou brought for Me?