

Matthew 22:37

"YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND."

Earlier in chapter 22 of the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus had words with some Sadducees who were trying to trick Him. Following that, the Pharisees who had watched Jesus silence the Sadducees; came and tried to test Jesus with this question in verse 36, **"Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?"** Jesus then quoted out of the Old Testament in **Deuteronomy 6:5**, **"And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.** Jesus then went on to say, ³⁸ **"This is the great and foremost commandment.**

Not only is the greatest commandment to love the Lord our God with all of our heart, soul and mind. But Jesus went to tell us the second as well in **Matthew 22:39**, **"The second is like it, 'YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.'** I find it very intriguing that the Christian faith is all about love, yet when are we ever trained to tell the Lord our God that we love Him. I absolutely believe that Christians love our Lord, but do you ever speak word of adoration to Him? Is the first thing out of your mouth when you wake up in the morning to tell Him, "Lord, I love you?" Do you ever while you are driving to work, think to tell Him, how much He means to you? I actually asked my church recently if they had ever had a pastor exhort them to tell the Lord daily that they love Him. Not one person raised their hand acknowledging that they had. If this is true across the board, then it is an indictment against the leaders of the church! Because we are taught so very often that the Lord loves us. In fact, most grade school children in churches across our land are taught **John 3:16**, **"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.**

So why is it that we are not taught to tell the Lord that we love Him, to speak words of adoration unto Him? I absolutely want the Lord to hear me tell Him, "I love You", long before I enter into glory. Most people have no problem telling their spouse that they love one another, or to tell their children as well. So why do we not tell our Bridegroom that we are going to spend eternity with, that we love Him?

Church I exhort you today to tell the Lord that you indeed love Him. To spend time with Him, and to learn how true intimacy with your Lord is something that you can share in this side of heaven. If you never spend time with the Lord, then it is hard to speak those words. But it is your choice whether or not you have a deep and meaningful relationship with our God. He is not only willing, but He desires that relationship with each of us. Our Heavenly Father did everything that we needed in order to know Him personally. So what is stopping you from saying, "Lord I love You with all of my heart and soul" He deserves nothing less than your very best, so open your heart to Jesus and start an intimate relationship with Him today, it will change your life!!