

Love Transforms Your Life
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Then one of them, a lawyer, asked Him a question, testing Him, and saying, "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?" Jesus said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets." **(Matthew 22:35-40 NKJV)**

God knew all the while that under the Law, no one could love that perfectly. So, what did God do?

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. **(John 3:16 NKJV)**

Look at the Word "so". It speaks of the intensity with which God loves us.

For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. **(Romans 5:7-9 NKJV)**

Now it is an extraordinary thing for one to give his life even for an upright man, though perhaps for a noble and lovable and generous benefactor someone might even dare to die. But God shows and clearly proves His [own] love for us by the fact that while we were still sinners, Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed One) died for us. Therefore, since we are now justified (acquitted, made righteous, and brought into right relationship with God) by Christ's blood, how much more [certain is it that] we shall be saved by Him from the indignation and wrath of God. **(Romans 5:7-9 AMP)**

When you are overflowing with God's love, you will fulfill the Law effortlessly without even trying.

The cross is not a demonstration of our perfect love and devotion to God. The cross is God's demonstration of His perfect love and His perfect grace toward us, for it was while we were still sinners that Jesus died for us. He did not die for you and me because of our perfect love for God. He died for you and me because of His perfect love for us.

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. **(I John 4:10, 11 NKJV)**

This is the emphasis of the New Covenant of grace, His love for us, not our love for Him! When we receive His love for us and start believing that we are His beloved, look at the results.

Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. **(I John 4:11 NKJV)**

Notice that the love for one another comes after our experience of His love for us! You cannot love others when you have not first been filled by His love. When you are overflowing with His love, you will fulfill the Law effortlessly without even trying because God's Word tells us:

Love does no harm to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfillment of the law. **(Romans 13:10 NKJV)**

“For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but faith working through love.” **(Galatians 5:6 NKJV)**

The love chapter in **(1 Corinthians 13.)**

Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, **(Ephesians 5:25 NKJV)**

Men, do you realize that the focus is not on what we have to do or on our own love for our wives? The truth is that we first need to be filled with the love of Christ.

We can only love because He first loved us!

For the commandments, "You shall not commit adultery," "You shall not murder," "You shall not steal," "You shall not bear false witness," "You shall not covet," and if there is any other commandment, are all summed up in this saying, namely, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no harm to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfillment of the law. **(Romans 13:9, 10 NKJV)**

The Law is inferior. It can only command you not to commit adultery, but it cannot make you love your spouse. To the measure that you have of this clause and all its blessings, to that measure you will walk in it.

For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more." **(Hebrews 8:12 NKJV)**

Look at the word "For." It means "because." The New Covenant works because God says that He will be merciful to our unrighteousness, and our sins and lawless deeds He will remember no more! "No more" means that there was a time God remembered our sins, even punished them to the third and fourth generations.

You shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me, **(Exodus 20:5 NKJV)**

This is found in the Ten Commandments chapter. God says, "no more!" Double negative in the Greek. "No more" means that God will never again remember our sins against us because He remembered to punish all our sins in the body of His Son.