



May 15

The Greatest Commandment and the Greatest Misconception

Samuel said, "Has Yahweh as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of Yahweh? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to listen than the fat of rams" – 1 Samuel 15:22

[Mark 12:28-37] But the Pharisees, when they heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, gathered themselves together. One of the scribes came, and heard them questioning together. Knowing that he had answered them well, asked him a question, testing him, "Which commandment is the greatest of all?"

Jesus answered, "The greatest is, 'Hear, Israel, the Lord 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 mind, and with all your strength.' [Deuteronomy 6:5] This is the first commandment. The second is like this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' [Leviticus 19:18] There is no other commandment greater than these. The whole law and the prophets depend on these two commandments."

The scribe said to him, "Truly, teacher, you have said well that he is one, and there is none other but he, and to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, with all the soul, and with all the strength, and to love his neighbor as himself, is more

important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices."

Love the Lord your
God with all your heart,
and with all your soul

When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, "You are not far from the Kingdom of God."

No one dared ask him any question after that.

Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them a question as he taught in the temple, saying, "What do you think of the Christ? Whose son is he?"

They said to him, "Of David."

He said to them, "How then does David in the Spirit call him Lord, saying *in the book of Psalms*,

'The Lord said to my Lord, sit on my right hand, until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet?' [Psalm 110:1]

"If then David calls him Lord, how is he his son?"

The common people heard him gladly. No one was able to answer him a word, neither did any man dare ask him any more questions from that day forth. [Matthew 22:34-46, Luke 20:41-44]

1. How do you obey these commands? How will you today? What are your "sacrifices"?
2. Why does Jesus question the priests? Did they get it? What are your misconceptions?
3. Jesus, you came destroy Satan's work, but your life was not what most expected; please...