

Don't apologize for **truth**.

Just like you and I, people need to know that
God's word is a solid rock.

Never deliver the Word of God as perhaps this
is another way you can look at it.

10/16/22

Romans 12:1-2 (NIV)

8 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, fully acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.
9 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

Divine Love

John 13:34 (NIV)

14 A new commandment I give to you, that you **love** one another as I have **loved** you, that you also **love** one another.

1. Keeping the OT law is **legalism** in the church age:

a. **love** and **mental attitude**:

The driving thrust
of the sin nature is
to serve self

Don't choose to place yourself under the Dominion of the sin nature

Romans 14:23-25 (NIV)

23 However the man who doubts is condemned by what he has been appeared, for will condemn the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him.
24 Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone.

24 But each one is tempted when he is drawn away **by his own desires** and enticed.
25 Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, **brings forth death**.

Whenever we choose to sin we step
out of fellowship with the Holy Spirit

and the death
of the carnally minded is
what we experience

Galatians 5:13 (NIV)

13 For you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only **do not use liberty as an opportunity for the flesh**, but through **love**

serve one another

an integral aspect of **love**

Everything that we are presently doing affects our eternal position in the kingdom, in terms of rewards, position, and inheritance when we will be reigning and ruling with Jesus Christ.

Because we are confident in where we are going, it impacts the decisions we make today

GAIN AND HOLD ON TO AN ETERNAL PERSPECTIVE

This is critical for the Christian walk; **we will not advance without a profound sense of our eternal destiny**

If we do, our priorities will be placed more and more on this dimension and our spiritual life

It's for this reason that **love** is the highest priority:

Matthew 22:36-40 (NIV)

36 "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?"

37 Jesus replied, "You shall **love** the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind;

38 This is the first and great commandment.

39 And the second is like it: 'You shall **love** your neighbor as yourself'."

This commandment is
first because it provides
the virtue and motivation
for loving others

40 On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets."

Love for God is exemplified through **obedience**.

Obedience becomes the barometer for
determining how much you love God

Not how you feel

Deuteronomy 10:16 (NIV)

17 You shall **love** the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.

18 And **these words which I command you** today shall be in your heart.

19 You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up.

20 You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes.

21 You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

Obedience

In order to obey God,
you have to know the
word, which means **self-discipline** in order to:
1. be in **church**
2. **focus** on the study
3. **prepare** the study
4. **meditate** on the word
with the **participation** of
transforming the way
you think.

John 14:15 (NIV)

15 "If you love Me, keep My commandments.

John 14:21 (NIV)

21 He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him."

John 14:23-24 (NIV)

23 If you remain and abide in Me, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word, and My Father will love him, and He will come to him and **make His home with him**."

This is the definition of fellowship

"He who does not love Me does

This is the definition of apostasy
and is out of fellowship

not keep My words, and the word which you hear is not Mine but the Father's who sent Me."

Perhaps the most quoted verse in the New Testament

Matthew 22:39 (NIV)

39 And the second is like it: "You shall **love** your neighbor as yourself."

Leviticus 19:18 (NIV)

18 You shall not hate your neighbor, nor have any grudge against the children of your people, but you shall **love** your neighbor as yourself. I am the Lord.

Matthew 22:37 (NIV)

40 "You have heard that I have said, 'You shall **love** your neighbor and hate your enemy'."

Matthew 24:14 (NIV)

15 "Love your father and your mother" and "You shall **love** your neighbor as yourself."

Romans 13:9 (NIV)

9 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."

Galatians 5:14 (NIV)

14 For all the Law is fulfilled in one word, even in this: "You shall **love** your neighbor as yourself."

Mark 12:31-32 (NIV)

31 And the second, like it, is this: "You shall **love** your neighbor as yourself." There is no other commandment greater than these."

32 Further, when Jesus said to Him, "Well said, Teacher. You have spoken the truth, for there is one God, and there is no other but He.

33 And to love Him with all the heart, with all the understanding, with all the soul, and with all the strength, and to **love** one's neighbor as oneself," is more than all the whole burnt offerings and sacrifices."

34 Now when Jesus saw that the answer was full, He said to him, "You are not far from the Kingdom of God." But after that no one dared question Him.

James calls it the **Royal commandment**:

James 2:1-11 (NIV)

8 If you really fulfill **the royal law** according to the Scripture, "**You shall love your neighbor as yourself**," you do well;

John 13:34-35 (NIV)

14 A new commandment I give to you, that you **love one another as I have loved you**, that you also **love one another**.

15 By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have **love for one another**."

9 But if you show partiality, you commit sin, and are convicted by the law as transgressors.

10 For whoever shall keep the whole law, and yet stumble in one point, he is guilty of all.

11 For He who said, "Do not commit adultery," also said, "Do not murder." Now if you do not commit adultery, but you do murder, you have become a transgressor of the law.

12 So speak and so do as those who will be judged by the law of liberty.

13 For judgment is without mercy to the one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

2.

a. The positive mandate to **love your neighbor as yourself** refers to anyone who comes into our periphery/ personal area of contact.

The context here has to do with mental attitude since:

Leviticus 19:18-19 (NIV)

18 **You shall not hate your fellow countryman in your heart**; nor may you hate your neighbor **because of him**.

19 You shall not hate your neighbor, nor have any grudge against the sons of your people, but you shall **love** your neighbor as yourself. I am the Lord.

So it is an absence of vindictiveness, malice, hate, and of emotional sins that are so destructive all of which are a part of the sin nature.

The first things to observe here is that the mandate in Leviticus is defined **negatively**, as the absence of **MENTAL ATTITUDE**

SINS dominating the thinking of the soul.

We are to treat the person with courtesy and kindness.

We are commanded
not to incur sin, no
matter what the issue
is with your neighbor

Grudge and
resentments are from
the sin nature.

1st John 4:19-20 (NIV)
19 In which you formerly walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience.
20 If you love those who love the world, the love of the world is in you, and the love of the world is the love of the world, and the love of the world is the love of the world.

This is all part of **impersonal love**, it's towards people you don't necessarily personally know:

Leviticus 19:11-12 (NIV)

11 With you reap the harvest of your land, **you shall not** wholly reap the corners of your field, nor shall you gather the gleanings of your harvest.

In other words, don't pinch your pennies. Be gracious towards those who are poor, who don't have much if anything. Remember that this was in an agricultural economy. Most people worked out on the farms and it is talking about their basic personal economy, how they handled their personal finances.

12 And **you shall not** glean your vineyard, **nor shall you** gather every grape of your vineyard; you shall leave them for the poor and the stranger. I am the Lord your God.

This is God's divine plan for a welfare system. There are always going to be the poor.

This is a **personal system** of taking care of those who are without, it is not a government system and not a bureaucracy set up in order to take care of them.

There's a specific teaching in Scripture here, was a personal issue where a certain amount of the field was left by the owner, to take care of the poor.

Remember God's word is intended to **transform every category** our daily walk, **how we think about everything** we do in life:

10 **You shall not steal**, nor deal falsely, nor lie to one another.

Should not use God's name as a curse word

12 And **you shall not** swear by My name falsely, **nor shall you** profane the name of your God: I am the Lord.

13 **You shall not cheat** your neighbor, nor rob him. The wages of him who is hired shall not remain with you all night until morning.

The focus about every transaction even if they all never know it because God does

14 **You shall not** curse the deaf, nor put a stumbling block before the blind, but shall fear your God: I am the Lord.

15 **You shall do no injustice** in judgment. **You shall not** be partial to the poor, nor favor the person of the mighty; in righteousness you shall judge your neighbor.

16 **You shall not go about as a slanderer** among your people, and you are not to act against the life of your neighbor: I am the Lord.

No gossip, no judging, no naming other people, no slandering, putting people down

3.
4.
5.
6.

Romans 12:1-2 (NIV)

8 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, fully acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.

9 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.