

The Second Greatest Command

"The second is like it, 'YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.'

"On these two commandments depend the whole Law and the Prophets."

(Matthew 22:39-40)

Outline of the Command

- **Position: Second but alike**
 - Based on Love and Selflessness
- **Action: Love**
 - "We owe to our neighbor what we have a right to expect from him." (ACC)
 - Golden Rule (Matt 7:12, Luke 6:31)
- **Object: Neighbor**
 - O.T. Roots (Lev. 19:18)
- **Extent: As Thyself**
 - Alike in strength and reality (Eph. 5:28-29)

Our Capacity To Love Our Neighbor Is Larger Than We Think

- **What About The 'Unlovable'?**
 - Luke 10:29-37
- **The Samaritan Loved The Jew!**
 - Jesus teaching revolutionized WHO was loveable, who was worthy of love!
- **We Love With Compassion.**
 - For Spiritual & Physical Needs
 - Luke 10:33

Our Opportunity To Love Our Neighbor Is Broader Than We Think

- **Neighbor Is An Inclusive Term**
 - Luke 10:29
- **"So then, while we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, and especially to those who are of the household of the faith." (Galatians 6:10)**
- **Who Is Our Neighbor?**
 - Especially someone we have an open door to help.
- **Think Globally**
 - Matt. 28:19-20

The Reward For Loving Our Neighbor Is More Wonderful Than We Think

- **Nothing you do for yourself is as blessed as what you do for others.**
 - Acts 20:35
- **It is a Royal Law**
 - James 2:8
- **Helps Us Fulfill God's Laws**
 - Gal. 5:13-15
- **Necessary for Eternal Life**
 - Luke 10:25

Loving Our Neighbor Is Easier Than We Think

- **"As Yourself" Thinking**
 - What areas of life do you find yourself needing the love of those around you?
 - What methods of expressing love do you most appreciate?
 - When do you expect others to act with love toward you?
- **Following God's Commands**
 - Matt. 22:40

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"You shall love your neighbor as yourself"

- **We Have The Capacity**
- **We Have The Opportunities**
- **We Have Great Rewards**
- **We Already Know How To Obey**

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