

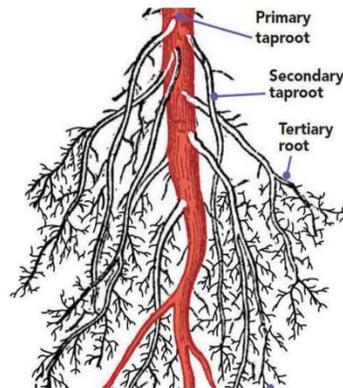
SEPTEMBER 7, 2021
LOVE—THE GREATEST COMMANDMENT



John 13:34 A new commandment I give unto you. That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.

Great Commandment = Tap Root of Love

- Matthew 22:35 Master, which is the great commandment in the law?
 - 36 Jesus said unto him, **Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind**
 - 37 **This is the first and great commandment.**
 - 38 And the second is like unto it; Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.
 - 39 On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.
- Everything Else Comes From the Tap Root of Love



Points to Consider

1. Love God First = Matt. 22:35-39, Moroni 10:29, Deut 4:7-9, D&C 33:1b, 59:2a
2. We must come to know God to Love Him = Articles of Faith by Joseph Smith = **“without the understanding that God is loving and merciful,”** Joseph said: **“the spirit of the saints would faint in the midst of tribulations, afflictions and persecutions which they have to endure for righteousness sake.”** 1 John 4:8, 19
3. Everything is going to be Shaken in this the Last Days = Haggai 2:6-7 and Luke 21:26
4. For an Unshaken Faith = Anchor It in A Belief in God and His Great Love = Heb.6:19

5. Power of an Unshaken Faith = Jacob 3:7
6. Does Christ Dwell in Your Heart? = Eph. 3:16-19, D&C 85:38c, I Cor. 13:1-13
7. To Grow That Tap Root of Love Keep Him #1 in Your Life =
Rev. 2:1-4, Isa. 26:9, Prov. 8:17
8. The Scriptures are God's Love Letters to You = Read Them =
Alma 12:4-5, 2 Tim 2:15, 2 Nephi 4:14, 13:30, Jacob 4:11
9. If you love God, you will Keep His Commandments = John 14:15, 8:29
10. Love Your Neighbor as Yourself = D&C 42:8, Luke 10:28,
10:30-37 Good Samaritan, Gal 5:22-23 Fruit of the Spirit, John 13:34-35, John 15:12-13,
Moroni 8:29
11. May Our Love for Christ dwell at the Center of Our Home = I Thess. 3:12, I Cor. 16:14,
Ps. 51:10
12. Love Others in the Household of Faith = 2 Tim. 2:24, Eph. 4:32, Gal 6:10
13. The Greatest of These is Charity = I Cor. 13th chapter, Moroni 10:29,7:50-53

Ray Zinser in "The Words of Christ" says: **"Splitting the atom created consequences far beyond the immediate objective of the scientist. Even more powerful is the element of Love in the Universe. As love is shared (Split Off) it produces power that has no equal in the universe."** The Love of God is the most powerful force in the world. It can do more than split atoms—it can change hearts. No atom bomb has done that. No number of bullets can do that. Loving words and actions, given under the influence of God's Spirit, can change the hardest Heart, it can change the world."

Arthur Oakman = Zion Seminar 1967: "Though each of us brings to the altar varying gifts, each of us bring varying degrees of devotion to the altar. Yet, my friends, God accepts that which we do. **We love God; that is not our problem. Our problem is that we don't love Him enough."**

The thing that impedes the coming of the kingdom is the fact that we have not learned the truth of the first commandment, **"Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, might, mind and strength."** **(First = You must put Him First)** And if you love Him with all your heart...then your "self, which is you, can be left safely to love your fellow men. **This is the essence of the Kingdom of God.**"

Message Given Through Elbert A Smith = Church History Vol. 6: "The Spirit of God, which bridges time, and to whom yesterday is as today, brings this injunction also to us. And it is laid upon this people: **"Yea, saith the Lord, I desire many evangelists of love to preach the gospel of love, not only in word but also in deed. If there is any man here who has not been baptized with the Spirit of Love, he has not been baptized to Me, saith the Lord.**

Again, at this time, you are admonished that you be not unduly concerned because you are few in number as compared with the world . . . a few righteous men can accomplish very much and a little leaven leaveneth a great lump . . . Be humble and righteous and full of love, casting out the spirit of hatred, that you may stand in holy places and receive the blessings of the Lord . . . wherefore, ye must press forward with a love of God and of all men."