

WHO IS THIS MAN?

WHAT IS THE GREATEST COMMANDMENT?

Mark 12:28-34 Jeff Schreve

But when the Pharisees heard that He had put the Sadducees to silence, they gathered themselves together. And one of them, a lawyer, asked Him a question, testing Him, "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?" Matthew 22:34-36

How does Jesus handle the third “trap question” of the day?

1. The greatest commandment is to love God.

Jesus answered, “The foremost is, ‘HEAR, O ISRAEL! THE LORD OUR GOD IS ONE LORD; AND 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.’” Mark 12:29-30

- A. The greatest commandment is devotion not duty.
- B. The greatest commandment is complete and total.
- C. The greatest commandment is a response to God’s love.
We love, because He first loved us. 1 John 4:19
- D. The greatest commandment is expressed in obedience.
“He who hates Me hates My Father also. If I had not done among them the works which no one else did, they would not have sin; but now they have both seen and hated Me and My Father as well. John 15:23-24

2. The second greatest commandment is to love people.

“The second is this, ‘YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.” Mark 12:31

- A. Loving God enables you to love others.
- B. Loving God enables you to view others differently.
For if because of food your brother is hurt, you are no longer walking according to love. Do not destroy with your food him for whom Christ died. Romans 14:15

All the Law of Moses and the Books of the Prophets are based on these two commandments. Matthew 22:40 CEV

3. The greatest inheritance is the kingdom of God.

And the scribe said to Him, "Right, Teacher, You have truly stated that HE IS ONE; AND THERE IS NO ONE ELSE BESIDES HIM; AND TO LOVE HIM WITH ALL THE HEART AND WITH ALL THE UNDERSTANDING AND WITH ALL THE STRENGTH, AND TO LOVE ONE'S NEIGHBOR AS HIMSELF, is much more than all burnt offerings and sacrifices." And when Jesus saw that he had answered intelligently, He said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." And after that, no one would venture to ask Him any more questions. Mark 12:32-34

A. No one can enter unless he gets honest.

B. No one can enter unless he bows his knee to Jesus.

How are you doing with the greatest commandments?