



“Devoted to God’s Standard”
Romans 12:9
Romans 12: Devoted to Service

Romans 12:9 - “Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil, cling to what is good.”

I. Devoted to God’s Standard

- 1.) We need a standard outside of ourselves.

II. God’s Standard of Love

Romans 12:9a - “Let love be without hypocrisy...”

Jeremiah 17:9 – “The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it?”

Hebrews 12:6a – “For the Lord disciplines the one he loves...”

- 1.) Genuine love loves as God loves.

John 15:3 – “Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.”

John 13:34 – “A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another.”

1 John 3:18 – “Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and truth.”

III. God’s Standard of good and evil.

Romans 12:9b, “...abhor what is evil, cling to what is good.”

- 1.) When we add to God’s standard, it becomes our standard.

Romans 14:13 – “Therefore let us not pass judgement on one another any longer, but rather decide never to put a stumbling block or hindrance in the way of a brother.”

Luke 9:23 – “And he said to all, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me.”

2.) What we do isn't as important as why we do it.

Matthew 6:2 – “Thus when you give to the needy, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward.”

1 Samuel 15:22a, And Samuel said, “Has the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice...”

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1.) What did you find new, helpful, or confusing about today's message?
- 2.) If you could make a law everyone had to follow, what would it be?
- 3.) How does secular culture define love? How does this differ from the biblical definition?
- 4.) Read Ephesians 4:15. What is the connection between truth and love?
- 5.) What is the lure of legalism? How do we avoid adding to God's standard?
- 6.) What reason could you give to someone for why you follow Jesus?