

# Love: The Key to all Godly Obedience

Text: [Romans 13:8-10](#)

Date: April 28, 2024

## [Psalm 119:1-8](#) (ESV)

- <sup>1</sup> Blessed are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the LORD!
- <sup>2</sup> Blessed are those who keep His testimonies, who seek Him with their whole heart,
- <sup>3</sup> who also do no wrong, but walk in His ways!
- <sup>4</sup> You have commanded Your precepts to be kept diligently.
- <sup>5</sup> Oh that my ways may be steadfast in keeping Your statutes!
- <sup>6</sup> Then I shall not be put to shame, having my eyes fixed on all Your commandments.
- <sup>7</sup> I will praise you with an upright heart, when I learn Your righteous rules.
- <sup>8</sup> I will keep Your statutes; do not utterly forsake me!

## [Romans 7:14-15](#) (ESV)

- <sup>14</sup> For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am of the flesh, sold under sin.
- <sup>15</sup> For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate.

## [Romans 7:19](#) (ESV)

- <sup>19</sup> For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing.

## [Romans 13:8-10](#) (ESV)

- <sup>8</sup> Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law.

<sup>9</sup> For the commandments, “You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”

<sup>10</sup> Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

[Ephesians 4:22](#) (ESV)

<sup>22</sup> Put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires...

[Romans 13:8](#) (ESV)

<sup>8</sup> Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law.

[John 13:34–35](#) (ESV)

<sup>34</sup> “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.

<sup>35</sup> By this all people will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”

[1 John 2:10](#) (ESV)

<sup>10</sup> Whoever loves his brother abides in the light, and in him there is no cause for stumbling.

[1 John 3:23](#) (ESV)

<sup>23</sup> And this is His commandment, that we believe in the name of His Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as He has commanded us.

[1 John 4:7](#) (ESV)

<sup>7</sup> Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God.

[1 John 4:21](#) (ESV)

<sup>21</sup> And this commandment we have from Him: whoever loves God must also love His brother.

[Colossians 3:12-14](#) (ESV)

<sup>12</sup> Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience,

<sup>13</sup> bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.

<sup>14</sup> And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

[Matthew 5:43-44](#) (ESV)

<sup>43</sup> "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.'

<sup>44</sup> But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you."

[Romans 12:14](#) (ESV)

<sup>14</sup> Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them.

[Galatians 6:10](#) (ESV)

<sup>10</sup> So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

[Romans 13:8](#) (ESV)

<sup>8</sup> Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law.

[Ephesians 4:32](#) (ESV)

<sup>32</sup> Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

[Matthew 6:14–15](#) (ESV)

<sup>14</sup> For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you,

<sup>15</sup> but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

[Ephesians 4:2](#) (ESV)

<sup>2</sup> ... with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love...

[1 Corinthians 13:4–8](#) (ESV)

<sup>4</sup> Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant

<sup>5</sup> or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful;

<sup>6</sup> it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth.

<sup>7</sup> Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

<sup>8</sup> Love never ends.

[John 15:13](#) (ESV)

<sup>13</sup> Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.

[Philippians 2:6–8](#) (ESV)

<sup>6</sup> ... though He was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped,

<sup>7</sup> but emptied Himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men.

<sup>8</sup> And being found in human form, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

[1 John 3:16](#) (ESV)

<sup>16</sup> By this we know love, that He laid down His life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers.

[Romans 5:5](#) (ESV)

<sup>5</sup> ... because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

## **In order to love as God commands, you must submit to the Holy Spirit.**

[1 Thessalonians 4:9](#) (ESV)

<sup>9</sup> Now concerning brotherly love you have no need for anyone to write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love one another."

[1 John 4:16](#) (ESV)

<sup>16</sup> So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in Him.

*"Godly love is a matter of choice, and nothing less than willing, voluntary love is pleasing to God or can energize and unify His people."* - John MacArthur

[1 John 4:19](#) (ESV)

<sup>19</sup> We love because He first loved us.

<sup>9</sup> For the commandments, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

<sup>10</sup> Love does no wrong to a neighbor...

[Matthew 15:19](#) (ESV)

<sup>19</sup> For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander.

[Matthew 5:21–22](#) (ESV)

<sup>21</sup> “You have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not murder; and whoever murders will be liable to judgment.’

<sup>22</sup> But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment; whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, ‘You fool!’ will be liable to the hell of fire.

[Matthew 5:27–28](#) (ESV)

<sup>27</sup> “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’

<sup>28</sup> But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

[Romans 13:9](#) (ESV)

<sup>9</sup> ... any other commandment, are summed up in this word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”

[Philippians 2:3–4](#) (ESV)

<sup>3</sup> Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves.

<sup>4</sup> Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

[Romans 13:10b](#) (ESV)

<sup>10</sup> ... therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

### [Matthew 5:17–19](#) (ESV)

<sup>17</sup> “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to *fulfill them*.”

<sup>18</sup> For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished.

<sup>19</sup> Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

### [Matthew 7:12](#) (ESV)

<sup>12</sup> “So whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.”

### [James 2:8](#) (ESV)

<sup>8</sup> If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself,” you are doing well.

## **The debt of love never ends.**

### [Matthew 22:36–40](#) (ESV)

<sup>36</sup> “Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?”

<sup>37</sup> And (Jesus) said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.”

<sup>38</sup> This is the great and first commandment.

<sup>39</sup> And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.

<sup>40</sup> On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.”

**God chose to love you.**