

The Greatest Commandment?

Love God - Love Others



Loving God by
Keeping His
Commandments

John 14:15 “**If you love me, keep my commands.** 16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever— 17 the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.

The Spirit of Truth

Our Helper

- The Holy Spirit is in born-again believers
- The Holy Spirit convicts sinners
- The Holy Spirit helps us understand truth
- The Holy Spirit helps us obey truth

King Josiah

Loved God by Obeying God's
Word

2 Kings 22: 1 Josiah was eight years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem thirty-one years.

8 Hilkiah the high priest said to Shaphan the secretary, “I have found the Book of the Law in the temple of the Lord.” He gave it to Shaphan, who read it. 9 Then Shaphan the secretary went to the king and reported to him:

10 Then Shaphan the secretary informed the king, “Hilkiah the priest has given me a book.” And Shaphan read from it in the presence of the king.

11 When the king heard the words of the Book of the Law,
he tore his robes. 12 He gave these orders to his
attendant: 13 “Go and inquire of the Lord for me and for the
people and for all Judah about what is written in this book
that has been found. Great is the Lord’s anger that burns
against us because those who have gone before us have
not obeyed the words of this book; they have not acted in
accordance with all that is written there concerning us.”

Obedience is Our Love Language

Obedience to the Truth

2 Kings 23:1 Then the king called together all the elders of Judah and Jerusalem. 2 He went up to the temple of the Lord with the people of Judah, the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the priests and the prophets—all the people from the least to the greatest.

He read in their hearing all the words of the Book of the Covenant, which had been found in the temple of the Lord.

3 The king stood by the pillar and renewed the covenant in the presence of the Lord—to follow the Lord and keep his commands, statutes and decrees with all his heart and all his soul, thus confirming the words of the covenant written in this book. Then all the people pledged themselves to the covenant.

Sometimes Loving God

Means Removing Things That are Contrary to His Word

4 The king ordered Hilkiah the high priest, the priests next in rank and the doorkeepers *to remove* from the temple of the Lord all the articles made for Baal and Asherah and all the starry hosts. He burned them outside Jerusalem in the fields of the Kidron Valley and took the ashes to Bethel.

Removing Idols of the Heart

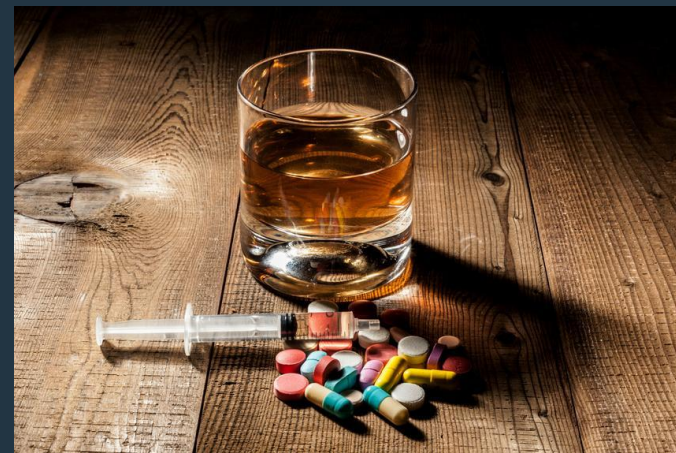
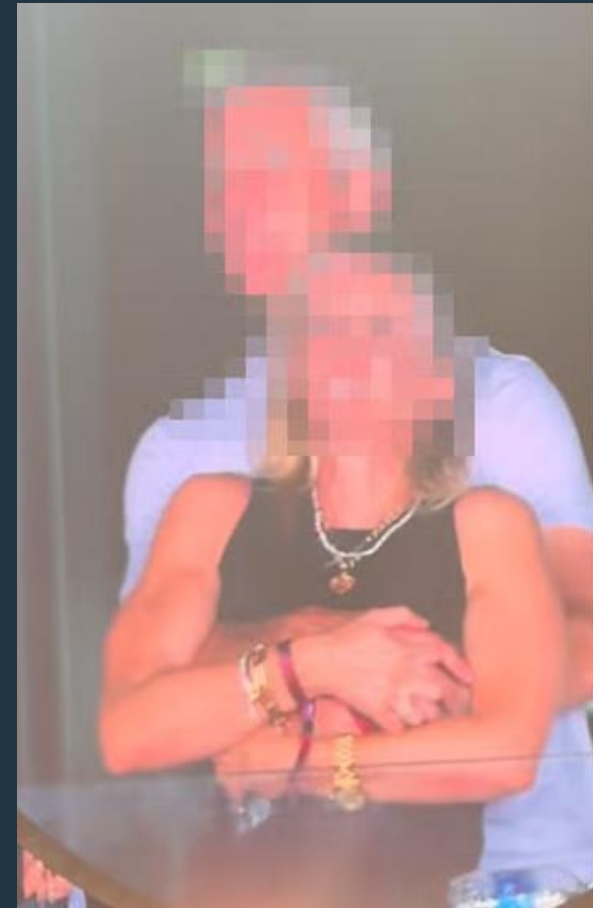
(King Josiah)

- Removed all items of pagan worship from the Temple (vessels for Baal , Asherah poles, starry hosts)
- Destroyed pagan altars throughout Judah
- Executed pagan priests
- Destroyed altars used for child sacrifice
- Tore down the quarters of the male shrine prostitutes

Idols of Our Heart?

Do they align with God's Word? If not, we have to remove them

- Sexual immorality
- Substances
- Politics
- Wealth and success
- Etc....



Action Steps

- Are you spending time in God's Word?
- Are you living according to God's Word?
- Take a moment & ask God to reveal any idols you may have, and ask him to help you remove them so you can love him!