

Christ Centered

Deuteronomy 6:4-5

“Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. 5 You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might

Israel God is unique. He is the only God not like others who worship many gods. This is a prayer of a God in whom who image humans are made. When Jesus was asked about what the greatest commandment is this is what Jesus referred to.

This is what Jesus people say to this day. There is a famous rabbi, Rabbi Akhibar who is from the early 2nd century A.D. He was so used to praying this prayer day by day. In fact even when he was being tortured to death he went on praying this prayer. His followers asked him how could you pray this at this time and his response was all my life I have been loving my God with all my heart, soul and might but I now I am loving him with my life. They tortured him to death and he died with the word Echad on his lips which means “ The Lord our God is One”.

God has made himself known to us. We are to say this prayer in the morning in the evening.

This is a Devotion to Gods way and Gods laws. Let dig a little more into this.

Galatians 2:20

I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me

Paul is talking about how Jews and Gentiles are brought into a single body. God loves both Jew and Gentile alike. This is about identifying ourselves in Christ and Christ alone. This issue at hand was that the Jews are like we can be on the same team with the Gentiles but don't expect us to eat with them. The Jews were though that the Gentiles were polluted corrupt idolaters we can not allow this to affect us. But Paul is telling us that when we are crucified to Christ, we are new regardless of the persons past. Remember Paul himself was a Pharisee himself. Even the most devoted Jew has to go through this death and resurrection to have a new life.

Luke 9:23-26

And he said to all, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it. For what does it profit a man if he gains the whole world and loses or forfeits himself? For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words, of him will the Son of Man be ashamed when he comes in his glory and the glory of the Father and of the holy angels.

John 13:34-35 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. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

Revelation 2: 1-6

“To the angel of the church in Ephesus write: ‘The words of him who holds the seven stars in his right hand, who walks among the seven golden lampstands.

““I know your works, your toil and your patient endurance, and how you cannot bear with those who are evil, but have tested those who call themselves apostles and are not, and found them to be false. I know you are enduring patiently and bearing up for my name's sake, and you have not grown weary. But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first. Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent, and do the works you did at first. If not, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place, unless you repent

Questions to ponder on

Who is your first Love?

Is Jesus Lord of your life?

Are you willing to be Christ Centered?

Do you love God your way or God's way.