

Growing in The Grace of God

Ephesians 2:8 Titus 3:7

1. **Matthew 22:35-40** The two Great Commandments.

A. Love God with all your heart, soul, mind. Love your neighbor (fellow man) as yourself. **vs. 40** “On these...hang all the law and prophets”

B. Example: The Ten Commandments: **Deut. 5**

1. The first four. **vss. 7-12**: Toward God.
2. The last six. **vss. 16-21**: Toward our fellow man.
3. All the other 803 commandments in the Old Testament follow this example.

C. Other examples of this truth.

1. Psalms – The importance of our love for God.
 - a) Just a few of the many Psalms that reflect this truth.
Psa. 146, Psa. 147, Psa. 148, Psa. 149, Psa. 150
2. Proverbs – The importance of our love and relationship with those around us.
 - a) Examples: **Prov. 6:16-19; 11:13; 13:3; 14:21; 15:18; 18:8, 21, 24; 19:17; 25:21; Matt. 5:44**
 - b) But life on this earth, as Solomon saw it, was futile.
Eccl. 1:1-3

2. Then Jesus came. **Luke 11:31**

A. The Parable of the Sower. **Matt. 13:3-9**

1. The disciples request the interpretation.
 - a) Jesus' answer: **Matt. 13:18-23**
 1. The wayside
 2. Stony places
 3. Thorns **Matt. 13:22 Luke 8:14**
 4. Good ground: **Matt. 13:23**

B. Each of us must determine what kind of disciple we want to be.