

LOVE MATTERS MOST

Matt. 22:36-39

Series: "What's Love Got to Do with It"

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Valentine's Day 2016

Matt. 22:36-39 (ESV) ³⁶ "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?" ³⁷ And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. ³⁸ This is the great and first commandment. ³⁹ And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. **3 LAWS OF LOVE**

I. THE BEST USE OF LIFE IS-- _____ . Why?--

1. Love _____ my faith.

1 John 4:8 (NIV) "Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.

1 John 4:20 (TEV) "If we say we love God, but hate others, we are liars. For we cannot love God, whom we have not seen, if we do not love others, whom we have seen."

2. Love _____ my life.

Col. 3:14 (CEV) "Love is more important than anything else. It is what ties everything completely together."

3. Love _____ for my sin.

1 Peter 4:8 (NLT) "Most important of all, continue to show deep love for each other, for love covers a multitude of sins."

Col. 2:14 (CEV) "God wiped out the charges that were against us for disobeying the Law... He took them away and nailed them to the cross."

4. Love _____ forever.

1 Cor. 13:13 (NCV) "Three things will continue forever: faith, hope, and love. And the greatest of these is love."

1 Cor. 13:3 (MSG) "No matter what I say, what I believe, and what I do, I'm bankrupt without love."

II. THE BEST EXPRESSION OF LOVE IS-- _____.

1 John 3:18 (GW) "We must show love through actions that are sincere, not through empty words."

➤ **Jesus taught that the essence of true loving relationships is how much we give of ourselves to that person.**

Gal. 5:6 (NIV) "The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love."

Eph. 5:2 (NLT) "Live a life filled with love for others, following the example of Christ, who loved you and gave himself as a sacrifice to take away your sins."

➤ **You can give without loving but you cannot love without giving.**

III. THE BEST TIME TO LOVE IS-- _____.

Gal. 6:10 (NLT) "Whenever we have the opportunity, we should do good to everyone..."

Eph. 5:16 (NCV) "Use every chance you have for doing good."

Prov. 3:27-28 (GN) "Whenever you possibly can, do good to those who need it. Never tell your neighbors to wait until tomorrow if you can help them now."

➤ **Love should always take priority over everything else**

1 Cor. 14:1 (Amplified) "Eagerly pursue and seek to acquire love. Make it your aim, your great quest..."

Matt. 22:36-39 (Message) "'Love the Lord your God with all your passion and prayer and intelligence.' This is the most important, the first on any list. But there is a second to set alongside it: 'Love others as well as you love yourself.' **These two commands are pegs; everything in God's Law and the Prophets hangs from them.**"