

"And behold, a lawyer stood up to put him to the test, saying, 'Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?' He said to him, 'What is written in the law? How do you read it?' And he answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself."

What Does It Mean to Love God?

They were to be loyal only to Him.

(6.5, 13-15; cf. 4.39-40)

They were to serve Him with fear and trembling.

(Dt 6.1-2; 5.22-29; Ps 36.1)

They were to carefully obey His rules.

(6.3; 4.1-4, 6-8; 5.1)

They were to internalize His word.

They were to implant His character in their children.

(6.2, 7, 20-25; cf. Josh 4.1-7)

The Promises of Moses and the Prophets

Notice in the context of loving God with all your heart, and neighbor as yourself, there is "life." (Dt 4.1, 4, 40; 5.16, 33; 6.2, 24; 30.15, 19-20; 32.47; cf. 28.1-14; Lev 18.5; 19.18)

The prophets reminded the people of this covenant blessing. (Ezek 20.11, 13)

The lawyer desired an everlasting abundant life, but didn't know Jesus was the one in whom this promise found its fulfillment. (Jn 10.10)

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(Lk 10.25-28)