

## Loving God Completely

Deuteronomy 6:4-9

### Introduction

... from the First Sunday of 2016 ...

We want to start the New Year off right ...  
Whatever we did in 2015 ... it is done ...  
Whatever anyone did to us in 2015 ... it is done ...  
It is time for us to repent ... forgive ... and move on ... (repeat)

If we want to start this year off in a right relationship with God ...  
we must focus on Him!!! (sounds simple, but it is not always ...)  
We must not focus on ourselves and what we have done ... good or bad.  
We must not focus on others and what they have done ... good or bad.  
We have got to put our focus on God ...

This is what Moses is talking about today ...

So as the Children of Israel prepare to enter into the Promised Land ...  
Moses is trying to prepare them for success ...

... and through the text today, as we enter into this next year, God is preparing us for success by teaching us four things we need to do if we are really trying to ... **Get Right with God**

Moses is telling us that if we want to get right with God, we must ...  
Know who God is ...  
**Love God completely**  
Have a Godly Household  
Let the World Know that you stand with God

Today, from verse 5, we want to talk about **Loving God Completely** ...

Text tells us three ways we must love God if we really want to ...  
**Love God Completely** ...

#### I. **Love God with all of your heart** ...

- A. In the Bible, the heart is the seat of understanding ...
  - i. What we know ... or truly believe is in our heart – Genesis 6:5
  - ii. Proverbs 2:10 – wisdom enters through the heart
  - iii. Proverbs 3:1-5 – heart keep commandments ...
  - iv. Proverbs 8:5 – understanding heart
  - v. The bible gives a clear contrast in the importance of understanding
    1. Psalm 14:1 & 53:1 – fool ... in his heart, “There is no God.”
    2. Romans 10:9 – confess with thy mouth and believe in thine heart

- B. To love God with all of your heart . . .
  - i. You must believe . . .
  - ii. You must study . . .
- C. The bible talks of what happens when your heart faints or fails . . .
  - i. Doubt . . .
  - ii. Fear . . .
  - iii. Deuteronomy 11:16 – heart deceived . . . turn aside . . . other gods
- D. When the world comes after you . . . they will come for your heart
  - i. They will attack your belief
  - ii. They will want you to accept the lies
  - iii. They will want you to abandon God
  - iv. James 1:26 – religion in vain
- E. If you want to **Love God Completely**. . . you must love Him with all of your heart

## II. Love God with all of your soul . . .

- A. As the heart is the center of understanding . . . the soul is the center of the will
  - i. The heart is what you think or believe
  - ii. The soul is who you are . . . Genesis 2:7 – a living soul . . .
- B. If you want to love God with all of your soul . . . give yourself to Him
  - i. It's not enough just to read about Him . . .
  - ii. It's not enough just to talk about Him . . .
  - iii. It's not enough just to believe in Him . . .
  - iv. You've got to give yourself to Him
- C. Pastor William McDowell – *I Give Myself Away*

I give myself away . . . So You can use me

Here I am . . . Here I stand . . . Lord, my life is in your hands  
 Lord, I'm longing to see . . . Your desires revealed in me

Take my heart . . . Take my life . . . As a living sacrifice  
 All my dreams all my plans . . . Lord I place them in your hands

I give myself away . . . So You can use me

My life is not my own . . . To you I belong . . .  
 I give myself, I give myself to you

- D. You can't love God completely if you are still holding on to you
  - i. That's what's wrong with many of our human relationships
  - ii. We don't truly understand the nature of love

- iii. Love does not allow for independence . . .
- iv. Love requires interdependence . . .  
Pastor Hezekiah Walker – *I Need You to Survive*

I need you . . . You need me . . . We're all a part of God's body  
Stand with me . . . Agree with me . . . We're all a part of God's body  
It is his will that every need be supplied . . .  
You are important to me . . . I need you to survive

I pray for you . . . You pray for me . . .  
I love you . . . I need you to survive  
I won't harm you . . . With words from my mouth  
I love you . . . I need you to survive

It is his will that every need be supplied . . .  
You are important to me . . . I need you to survive

- v. If you don't give yourself to God . . . you cannot receive God
- E. To love God with all of your soul, you have to love Him like He loves you

Kurt Franklin – Love

Love a word that comes and goes  
but few people really know what it means to really love somebody  
Love though the tears may fade away, I'm so glad your love will stay  
'cause i love you and you show me, Jesus, what it really means to love

The nights that I cry, you love me  
when I should have died, you love me  
I'll never know why you love me  
it's a mystery to me now I'm glad to see Jesus

When all was gone, you love me  
You gave me a song that you love me  
now I can go on 'cause you love me  
it's a mystery to me now I'm glad to see Jesus

Now I know . . . what it really means to love

- F. 1 John 4:12-15 – If we love one another . . .
- G. If you want to **Love God Completely**. . . you must love Him with all of your soul

### III. Love God with all of your might . . .

- A. Loving God with all of your might speaks to our will . . .
  - i. Yes, love is what we think . . .
  - ii. Love is what we believe . . .
  - iii. Love is what we feel . . .
  - iv. Love is what we say . . .
  - v. But most importantly, love is what we do – 1 John 4:20
- B. 1 Corinthians 13 – Love is . . .
- C. You have to love God in your actions
  - i. You have to walk like Jesus
  - ii. You have to talk like Jesus
  - iii. You have to live like Jesus
  - iv. Folks ought to see Jesus in your actions
- D. If you want to **Love God Completely**. . . you must love Him with all of your might

### Conclusion

Jesus says that this is the first and great commandment in the law . . .

If you want to love God . . . you gotta love His son, Jesus

\*\*\*\*\*Tell the Story\*\*\*\*\*  
(Love Him . . .)

Today . . . we need to start getting right with God by **Loving Him Completely!!**