

Matthew Series

Lesson #137

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Dean Bible Ministries

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MATTHEW

JESUS: KING OF THE JEWS

**Love Your Neighbor; Self-Love;
Loving One Another
Matthew 22:39–40**

Matt. 22:39, “And the second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’”

Matt. 22:40, “On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.”

Three Questions (Matt. 22:15–40):

1. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar?

Matt. 22:15–22

2. In the resurrection, whose wife will she be? Matt. 22:23–33

3. Teacher, which is the great commandment of the Law? Matt. 22:34–40

Jesus' Counter Question:

4. Whose Son is the Messiah? Matt. 22:41–46

Lev. 19:18, “You shall not take vengeance, nor bear any grudge against the children of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD.”

Gal. 5:14, “For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this: ‘*You shall love your neighbor as yourself.*’ ” (Lev. 19:18b)

**Also in: Mark 12:28–31; Luke 10:27–37;
Rom. 13:9–10; James 2:8**

John 13:34, “A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another.

John 13:35, “By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”

John 15:12, 13, 17; Col. 1:4; 1 Thess. 3:12; 4:9; 1 Pet. 1:22; 1 John 4:7–11; 4:20–21

1. Setting

Matt. 22:35, “Then one of them, a lawyer, [*nomikos—expert in the Torah*] asked Him a question, testing Him, and saying,

2. Trap

Matt. 22:36, “ ‘Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?’ ”

Matt. 22:35, “Then one of them, a lawyer, [nomikos—expert in the Torah] asked Him a question, testing Him, and saying,

Matt. 22:36, “ ‘Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?’ ”

μέγας *megas*

nom fem sing

used as superlative, “greatest”

great, large, old

3. The answer, part 1:

Matt. 22:37, “Jesus said to him, ‘You shall love the LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND.

Matt. 22:38, “ ‘This is the first and great commandment.’ ”

**πρῶτος *prōtos*
nom fem sing
(ord) first,
prominent, former**

**μέγας *meγas*
nom fem sing
used as
superlative,
“greatest”
great, large, old**

3. The answer, part 2

**Matt. 22:39, “ ‘And the second is like it:
“*You shall love your neighbor as
yourself.*” ’ ”**

**Lev. 19:18b, “You shall not take
vengeance, nor bear any grudge against
the children of your people, but you
shall love your neighbor as yourself: I
am the LORD.”**

4. Conclusion:

Matt. 22:40, “On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.”

Jesus’ statement in Matt. 7:12, called the Golden Rule, states it this way:

Matt. 7:12, “Therefore, whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.”

5. Response:

Mark 12:32, “So the scribe said to Him, ‘Well said, Teacher. You have spoken the truth, for there is one God, and there is no other but He.

Mark 12:33, “ ‘And to love Him with all the heart, with all the understanding, with all the soul, and with all the strength, and to love one’s neighbor as oneself, is more than all the whole burnt offerings and sacrifices.’ ”

Mark 12:34, “Now when Jesus saw that he answered wisely, He said to him, ‘You are not far from the kingdom of God.’ ”

But after that no one dared question Him.

The Perversion

You can't love others until you first love yourself.

2 Tim. 3:1, “But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come:

2 Tim. 3:2, “For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,

2 Tim. 3:3, “unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good,

2 Tim. 3:4, “traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God,”

“Your neighbor love is your bad love of yourselves ... you do not love yourselves sufficiently.”

~Nietzsche

The Scripture

Rom. 12:3, “For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith.”

Eph. 5:29, “For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord does the church.”

Luke 10:29, “But he, wanting to justify himself, said to Jesus, ‘And who is my neighbor?’

Luke 10:30, “Then Jesus answered and said: ‘A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, who stripped him of his clothing, wounded him, and departed, leaving him half dead.’ ”

John 13:34, “A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another.

John 13:35, “By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”

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