

Our Conditional Love of Jesus

Part 2

by Vic Zarley

Jesus gives us the condition of our love for Him.

Joh 14:15 If you [really] love Me, you will keep (obey) My commands.

Joh 14:16 And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Comforter (Counselor, Helper, Intercessor, Advocate, Strengtheners, and Standby), that He may remain with you forever--

Joh 14:17 The Spirit of Truth, Whom the world cannot receive (welcome, take to its heart), because it does not see Him or know and recognize Him. But you know and recognize Him, for He lives with you [constantly] and will be in you.

Joh 14:21 The person who has My commands and keeps them is the one who [really] loves Me; and whoever [really] loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I [too] will love him and will show (reveal, manifest) Myself to him. [I will let Myself be clearly seen by him and make Myself real to him.]

Joh 14:22 Judas, not Iscariot, asked Him, Lord, how is it that You will reveal Yourself [make Yourself real] to us and not to the world?

What are the commands that Jesus tells us to obey so that we can express our love for Him, as He requested?

Joh 14:23 Jesus answered, If a person [really] loves Me, he will keep My word [obey My teaching]; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home (abode, special dwelling place) with him.

Joh 14:24 Anyone who does not [really] love Me does not observe and obey My teaching. And the teaching which you hear and heed is not Mine, but [comes] from the Father Who sent Me.

Joh 14:25 I have told you these things while I am still with you.

Joh 14:26 But the Comforter (Counselor, Helper, Intercessor, Advocate, Strengtheners, Standby), the Holy Spirit, Whom the Father will send in My name [in My place, to represent Me and act on My behalf], He will teach you all things. And He will cause you to recall (will remind you of, bring to your remembrance) everything I have told you.

Joh 14:27 Peace I leave with you; My [own] peace I now give and bequeath to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid. [Stop allowing yourselves to be agitated and disturbed; and do not permit yourselves to be fearful and intimidated and cowardly and unsettled.]

What are the commands that Jesus tells us to obey so that we can express our love for Him, as He requested?

Jesus tells Peter “Feed or tend My Sheep” Three times

Joh 21:14 This was now the third time that Jesus revealed Himself (appeared, was manifest) to the disciples after He had risen from the dead.

Joh 21:15 When they had eaten, Jesus said to Simon Peter, Simon, son of John, do you love Me more than these [others do--with reasoning, intentional, spiritual devotion, as one loves the Father]? He said to Him, Yes, Lord, You know that I love You [that I have deep, instinctive, personal affection for You, as for a close friend]. He said to him, Feed My lambs.

Joh 21:16 Again He said to him the second time, Simon, son of John, do you love Me [with reasoning, intentional, spiritual devotion, as one loves the Father]? He said to Him, Yes, Lord, You know that I love You [that I have a

deep, instinctive, personal affection for You, as for a close friend]. He said to him, Shepherd (tend) My sheep.

Joh 21:17 He said to him the third time, Simon, son of John, do you love Me [with a deep, instinctive, personal affection for Me, as for a close friend]? Peter was grieved (was saddened and hurt) that He should ask him the third time, Do you love Me? And he said to Him, Lord, You know everything; You know that I love You [that I have a deep, instinctive, personal affection for You, as for a close friend]. Jesus said to him, Feed My sheep.

We must feed His sheep when they put us down!! We must feed His sheep when they disrespect us! We must turn the other cheek when they hit us, we must give them our shirt, if they've asked for our coat, we must walk with them two miles if they've asked us to walk with them one mile.

Mat 5:11 Blessed (happy, to be envied, and spiritually prosperous--with life-joy and satisfaction in God's favor and salvation, regardless of your outward conditions) are you when people revile you and persecute you and say all kinds of evil things against you falsely on My account.

Mat 5:12 Be glad and supremely joyful, for your reward in heaven is great (strong and intense), for in this same way people persecuted the prophets who were before you. [II Chron. 36:16.]



We must feed His sheep when they put us down!!

We must feed His sheep when we have become discouraged and lost our will to do so!!

Mat 5:13 You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste (its strength, its quality), how can its saltiness be restored? It is not good for anything any longer but to be thrown out and trodden underfoot by men.

Do not just let things take their course. Deliberately go God's way.

We must feed His sheep by KNOWING who we are in Him!! When we really know who we are, in Him, we will not be as affected by the put downs and we will be able to love those who are mistreating us. The only respect we should ever want is God's. We should not give such a high priority to pleasing mankind. Remember, many of them do not get it, yet, that God's ways are much better. In fact, they resent God's ways and often want to take that resentment out on us—because, you see, they can't take it out on God. He's invisible. No, do not attempt to please mankind, but please God and earn His respect. We get that respect through Jesus Christ by following His commands, even though they are the hardest commands we will ever try to follow. He will exalt us (if we are humble enough to grab hold of our thoughts and make them go His way—which is higher than our ways—remember Isaiah 55:8, 9 in the first pamphlet?) Jesus would not have asked us to think His way, if thinking His way came naturally. He would just let nature take its course. But, when nature takes its course, the world's ways of thinking happen, not God's. Do not just let things take their course. Deliberately go God's way. Remember...

Mat 5:14 You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden.

Mat 5:15 Nor do men light a lamp and put it under a peck measure, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house.

Mat 5:16 Let your light so shine before men that they may see your moral excellence and your praiseworthy, noble, and good deeds and recognize and honor and praise and glorify your Father Who is in heaven.

What are more of the commands Jesus told us to follow so that He knows we love Him?

Here they are:



Matthew version:

Mat 5:43 You have heard that it was said, You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy; [Lev. 19:18; Ps. 139:21, 22.]

Mat 5:44 But I tell you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, [Prov. 25:21, 22.]

Mat 5:45 To show that you are the children of your Father Who is in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the wicked and on the good, and makes the rain fall upon the upright and the wrongdoers [alike].

Mat 5:46 For if you love those who love you, what reward can you have? Do not even the tax collectors do that?

Mat 5:47 And if you greet only your brethren, what more than others are you doing? Do not even the Gentiles (the heathen) do that?

Mat 5:48 You, therefore, must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

Luke Version:

Luk 6:27 But I say to you who are listening now to Me: [in order to heed, make it a practice to] love your enemies, treat well (do good to, act nobly toward) those who detest you and pursue you with hatred,

Luk 6:28 Invoke blessings upon and pray for the happiness of those who curse you, implore God's blessing (favor) upon those who abuse you [who revile, reproach, disparage, and high-handedly misuse you].

Luk 6:29 To the one who strikes you on the jaw or cheek, offer the other jaw or cheek also; and from him who takes away your outer garment, do not withhold your undergarment as well.

Luk 6:30 Give away to everyone who begs of you [who is in want of necessities], and of him who takes away from you your goods, do not demand or require them back again.

Luk 6:31 And as you would like and desire that men would do to you, do exactly so to them.

Luk 6:32 If you [merely] love those who love you, what quality of credit and thanks is that to you? For even the [very] sinners love their lovers (those who love them).

Remember, the world is not going to reward you for treating good, those who treat you bad. The world will laugh at you if you do that. They will goad you to seek justice and they will press you to take revenge. Don't fall for its ways. The world will not provide any answers that cause us to raise our heads above this glittering carnal world, glimpsing eternity. The world seeks only to keep our noses buried in the dust of carnality and present rewards only. It never seeks eternal rewards, but current gratification only.



Lord, please forgive me for loving my life and this world more than You. As I have denied You in the past, let me now confirm You by loving and feeding Your sheep. Let me love You and Your word above all else. Amen



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Thank you, and God bless you.
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