

## Matt 22:37-23:1 Week 75

### Jesus: The Picture of Perfect Love

Matt 22:37 Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' 38 This is the first and greatest commandment. 39 And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' 40 All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments." 41 While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them, 42 "What do you think about the Christ? Whose son is he?" "The son of David," they replied. 43 He said to them, "How is it then that David, speaking by the Spirit, calls him 'Lord'? For he says, 44 "'The Lord said to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand until I put your enemies under your feet.'" 45 If then David calls him 'Lord,' how can he be his son?" 46 No one could say a word in reply, and from that day on no one dared to ask him any more questions.

- Love does no intentional \_\_\_\_\_ to a neighbor.  
Neighbor: anyone who comes in contact with you on a \_\_\_\_\_ or informal basis.
  
- This love God commands us to have for people is by \_\_\_\_\_. It's purposeful, intentional, and active-- not merely sentimental and emotional.
  
- So the big question that most of us need to answer is this: What is \_\_\_\_\_?
  - "A strong \_\_\_\_\_ from another arising out of kinship or personal ties; to hold dear, to cherish; an attachment or devotion to someone or something."
  - It's \_\_\_\_\_; a commitment of ones mind and heart and soul.
  - Genuine love of the Lord is intelligent, feeling, willing, and serving. It involves thought, sensitivity, intent, and even action where that is possible and appropriate.
  - It may begin by us loving \_\_\_\_\_ more than personal \_\_\_\_\_.
  
- Question about the Messiah's Pedigree  
Who Christ is, is the basis of all \_\_\_\_\_. If a person and his religion is \_\_\_\_\_ about the nature and being of Christ, their religion is all wrong.

- So who is Christ?  
If He is who we say He is, does He have the freedom to live in us and through us \_\_\_\_\_?
- The Pharisees' answer was true but\_\_\_\_\_.
- They got the human aspect of the Messiah--they understood. But they would not confess the \_\_\_\_\_aspect of who the Messiah was: Jesus Himself.
- The explanation lies in the \_\_\_\_\_of Christ.
- The Pharisees' issue was not just who He was, but their \_\_\_\_\_.

Some truths for us today:

1. He is not only a man but He is the Son of God.
2. He enables me to not only \_\_\_\_\_ but to live out what I believe.
3. The trials I face in life only \_\_\_\_\_who He is in me.
4. Christianity has always found its most violent detractors and enemies in those who deny the \_\_\_\_\_of Jesus Christ.
5. Correct \_\_\_\_\_leads to correct beliefs and life.  
If your theology is bad, all else in life will end up equally as bad.

You are free to choose whatever action you desire, but you're not free to choose the \_\_\_\_\_.