

Every Believer's Struggle –
“Why Do I Do What I Do?”
Romans 7: 13-25

November 24, 2024

Sin

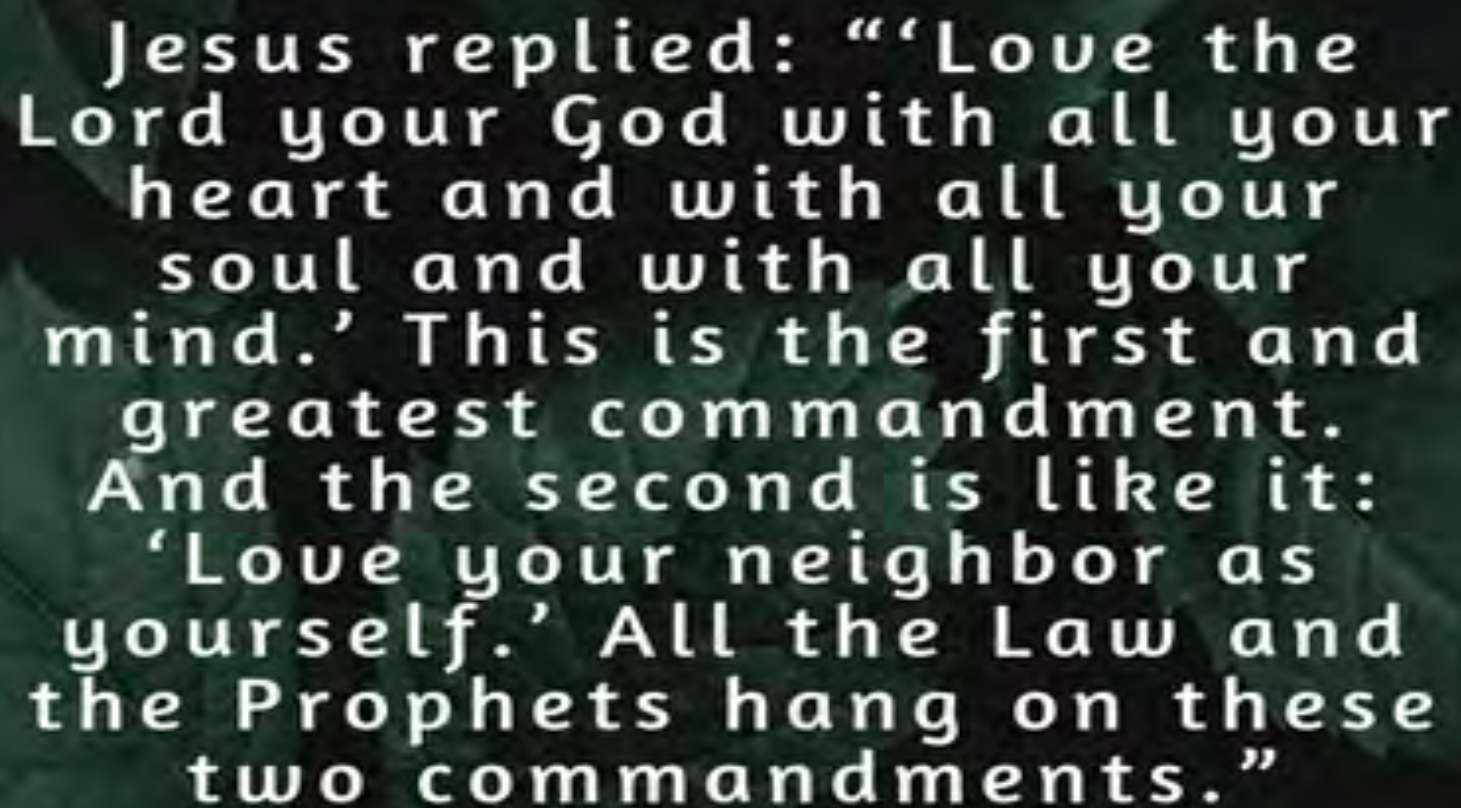
Salvation

**Sancti-
fication**

Sovereignty

Service

So Long



Jesus replied: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”

MATTHEW 22:37-40

Deuteronomy 6:4-9

Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.



Verse 13

**Every Believer – Don't blame the Law
for my sin**

The Law does not bring death, *sin* does!

Romans 6: 23

Verse 14 - 17

Every Believer's struggle

Paul describes two natures in himself:

First nature – the one that is in Adam

Second Nature – the one that is in Christ

Principle:

The one you feed is the one who will rule

FLESH OR SPIRIT

**World
Lust**

Romans 6:12

The Flesh's Desire To Be
Happy

Conformity
To The World's
Value System

Ephesians 2:3; 4:17-20
1 Corinthians 3:19



FLESH

**Word
Purity**

Galatians 5:16

The Spirit's Desire To Be
Holy

Transformed
To Comply
With Word
Value System

2 Corinthians 10:5
Romans 12:2



SPIRIT

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SEEKS IMMEDIATE PLEASURE

**PLACES
IMPORTANCE UPON**

SELF IMPORTANCE
STATUS
PLEASURE
ENTERTAINMENT
WEALTH
FOOD
SEX

SEEKS ULTIMATE GOOD

**PLACES
IMPORTANCE UPON**

WISDOM
TRUTH
SEPARATION
EVANGELISM
KNOWLEDGE
HOLINESS
ASSOCIATIONS

Living out the Christian life is not automatic

It takes Holy Spirit power, and work/discipline, to overcome the old man in Adam

Every believer's struggle involves not identifying with our sin

I identify with who I am in Christ

Positionally, our old man is dead – **Romans 6: 6**

Positionally, we have been crucified with Christ –
Galatians 2: 20

Functionally, we must live out who we are in Christ

Verse 18 - 23

Every Believer's inner battle

**When I say flesh,
think of our sin nature inherited from Adam**

Dwellers in Christ

Non-dwellers in Christ

On the one side	On the other side
The one who agrees with and delights in God's law (v.16, 22)	Indwelling sin (v.17,v.20)
The one who hates sin (v.15)	The flesh in which is no good thing (v.18)
The one who desires and wills to do good (v.18, 19)	Ever-present evil (v.21)
"The inward man" (v.22)	The "wretched man" (v.24)
The renewed "mind" (v.23, 25)	The flesh that is under the law of sin and death (v.23, 25)

The carnal Christian is ruled by their sin nature, old man, and desires

What are we to do with our flesh?

Starve it, kill it, put it to death
Romans 8: 13

The carnal Christian does not know if they are really saved

If we continue to live fleshly, with unrestrained desires, we will die

Galatians

Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

5:19-21



This is a person given over to their sin, *this is a non-believer!*

You may be a *professor* and not a *possessor* of true salvation!

I believe obeying God is the normal Christian life
John 10: 27-28

Hearing the Shepherd's voice and following the Shepherd,
this is the normal Christian life!

Verse 24 - 25

Conclusion: Every Believer's hope – JESUS!

For all humanity, there is only One who can save, One who can deliver, give life and hope

Only believing in Jesus can save!

**God gives you the faith to believe, but you must believe!
Ephesians 2: 8-9**

Our inner struggle is real, there is a battle for control of our minds

Will we always be trapped in this struggle?

NO! Jesus came to set the captives free, those in bondage to Satan and sin - Luke 4: 18

You can be set free!

You have been set free!

So Live out being set free in Christ!

FACT: My old man is dead

FACT: I can walk in newness of life

FACT: The Holy Spirit will be my Helper with this

**Thank God for the Holy Spirit in me,
giving me strength to be an overcomer!!**

**The Holy Spirit came at Pentecost and
3000 souls were born again**

God is still saving souls! *He saved you!*

PRAISE HIS HOLY NAME!

THE ANSWER TO EVERY BELIEVER'S STRUGGLE

JESUS!!