

First Love

The two words First Love occur only once in the Bible. So it is a concept that is not very well known. Yet it is precisely this understanding that is essential. Love is the foundation upon which the Most High hangs everything and the commandment of love is the highest and most important commandment in existence.

Revelation 2:4 'Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy FIRST LOVE.'

Deuteronomy 30:20 'that thou mayest love the LORD thy God, and that thou mayest obey his voice, and that thou mayest cleave unto him: for he is thy life, and the length of thy days: that thou mayest dwell in the land which the LORD sware unto thy fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.'

Free will

These two words do NOT appear in the bible at all and many say that man has no free will. Every person has the ability to think and to be able to make choices based on the thinking ability. A choice that chooses:

1. Himself
2. The neighbor
3. For God

A plant has no will of its own. A plant is planted or sown and will grow according to the prevailing conditions. An animal acts instinctively and will always obey its master. This obedience is according to the "training" that the animal receives. An animal does not have the choice to choose a good or bad employer. The animal does what the boss wants. In humans it is different. Man has the ability to think and can use it to determine whether something is good or bad.

In other words: Every person KNOWS whether a certain action is good or bad and chooses by Free Will to deal with this good or bad thing.

QUOTE: Psalms 118:6 'De HEER staat aan mijn kant; Ik zal niet vrezen: wat kan de mens mij aandoen?'

Ask about this Psalm seen from within yourself. No answer is given, it is a reflection for yourself. This same Psalm is discussed in more detail further on. Psalm 118:6

1. Does this text testify about the First Love?
2. Does this text testify about the Neighbor Love?
3. Does this text testify about Self-love?

Own Love

Self-love is therefore the phenomenon that the person appropriates the First Love to himself. A word that describes it even more clearly is: Selfishness. Self-love is completely focused on material and one's own earthly pleasure, one's own pleasure is the most important thing that exists. This "pleasure" can manifest itself in various forms. If you give yourself completely in earthly, material things, then that is an expression of love, an expression of love that rejects everything that is spiritual. Ezekiel also talks about the abominable idols and their abominations.

Ezekiel 11:21 'But as for them whose heart walketh after the heart of their detestable things and their abominations, I will recompense their way upon their own heads, saith the Lord GOD.'

Revelation 2:13-14 'I know thy works, and where thou dwellest, even where Satan's seat is: and thou holdest fast my name, and hast not denied my faith, even in those days wherein Antipas was my faithful martyr, who was slain among you, where Satan dwelleth. But I have a few things against thee, because thou hast there them that hold the doctrine of Balaam, who taught Balac to cast a stumblingblock before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed unto idols, and to commit fornication. '

Neighbor Love

Galatians 5:22 'But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, '

Revelation 2:2-4 'I know thy works, and thy labour, and thy patience, and how thou canst not bear them which are evil: and thou hast tried them which say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars: and hast borne, and hast patience, and for my name's sake hast laboured, and hast not fainted. Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love. '

The text above says that you do a lot for Him, you commit yourself with a lot of zeal, you even notice that your predecessor(s) are not in the truth. What you don't do - and that would be the right thing to do - confront the predecessors with their falsifications, you leave the dogma what it is and you join this false teaching. In this way you do not fight for the Supreme, but you surrender to His adversary and you have left the First Love.

Proving the First Love.

Psalms 91:14 'Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name. '

Psalms 118:1-6 '**O give thanks unto the LORD ; for he is good: Because his mercy endureth for ever.**

- Let Israel now say, That his mercy endureth for ever.
- Let the house of Aaron now say, That his mercy endureth for ever.
- Let them now that fear the LORD say, That his mercy endureth for ever.

I called upon the LORD in distress: The LORD answered me, and set me in a large place. The LORD is on my side; I will not fear: What can man do unto me? '

The question is: **Do we love God ABOVE all else?** That God loves us is a fact, He proves it time and again. God also wants and will do everything in his power to preserve man for eternity and He will also succeed in that, but can we just hold up our hands and just say thank you? Very many Christians even blindly assume that God will serve us.

The example of David speaks volumes.

Precisely because he praises and gives thanks to God first and bears witness to his love with full conviction - thus proving LOVE FIRST, he can say that the LORD is ALWAYS with him.

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