

THE BIBLE VIEW

In This Issue:

[Love the Lord Thy God](#)

[He Is Worthy to be Praised](#)

[We Owe Him Greatly](#)

[Bad Investments](#)

[How Great Thou Art](#)

[Other](#)

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Love the Lord Thy God

Bill Brinkworth

“And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.” Deut. 6:5

One of the main desires of God is that we love Him with all our being. All throughout the Bible God tells us to love Him with all our heart because:

Loving God is a commandment and expectation of our Creator.

“But take diligent heed to do the commandment and the law, which Moses the servant of the LORD charged you, to love the LORD your God, and to walk in all his ways, and to keep his commandments, and to cleave unto him, and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul.” Josuha 22:5

Also: Jos. 23:11

“Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.” Mt. 22:37 Also: Mark 12:30, Luke 10:27.

He is our strength, preserver, protector, and deliverer. Those are certainly reasons to love Him.

“I will love thee, O LORD, my strength.” Ps. 18:1

“O love the LORD, all ye his saints: for the LORD preserveth the faithful, and plentifully rewardeth the proud doer.” Ps. 31:23 Also: Ps. 97:10, Ps. 145:20.

He loves us so, and He hears our pleas.

“I love the LORD, because he hath heard my voice and my supplications.” Ps. 116:1

He is faithful and merciful to keep His promises.

“Know therefore that the LORD thy God, he is God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations;” Deut. 7:9

Loving God has many blessings, including: a fruitful, longer life.

“In that I command thee this day to love the LORD thy God, to walk in his ways, and to keep his commandments and his statutes and his judgments, that thou mayest live and multiply: and the LORD thy God shall bless thee in the land whither thou goest to possess it.” Deut. 30:16 Also: Deut. 30:20.

God cannot be deceived. He knows who really loves Him, and who wants to serve Him.

“Thou shalt not hearken unto the words of that prophet, or that dreamer of dreams: for the LORD your God proveth you, to know whether ye love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul.” Deut. 13:3 Also: Ps. 119:159, Gal. 6:7.

“So when they had dined, Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my lambs.” Joh 21:15 Also: John 21:16-17, Isa. 56:6.

It should be easy to love God because He first loved us (I John 4:19). He created us and makes sure we have all we need to live and even to prosper. He is the only God there is, and we need to love Him for all He has done for us and will do. None of us deserves anything; yet God has blessed us so, and for one of many reasons we should, without difficulty, readily love Him back.

“Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.” Jude 1:21

“The difference between God and man is God gives, gives, gives, and forgives, while man gets, gets, gets, but still forgets.” — Author Unknown

He Is Worthy to be Praised

“I will love thee, O LORD, my strength. 2 The LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower. 3 I will call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised: so shall I be saved from mine enemies. 4 The sorrows of death compassed me, and the floods of ungodly men made me afraid. 5 The sorrows of hell compassed me about: the snares of death prevented

me. 6 In my distress I called upon the LORD, and cried unto my God: he heard my voice out of his temple, and my cry came before him, even into his ears.” Ps. 18:1-6

“If God loved you as much as you love him, where would you be?” — *Unknown*

We Owe Him Greatly

Edited from an article by John Arndt, 1871

If a great king made his whole kingdom, all his dominions, nobles, subjects, and strong powerful men subject to you, would you not love him greatly? If he also commanded them to guard, defend, preserve, clothe, cure, and feed thee, and to take care that thou shouldst want nothing at all, would you not account him to be a most loving, generous lord? Would you not love him more for His great love towards you?

Then oughtest we to love the Lord thy God, who actually has done that for us. He daily meets all our needs, many of our desires, hedges around us for protection, and loves us truly, even though we fail Him so often. To make Him far better than any earthly “lord” could possibly be, the Lord of the universe loves us so that He sent his only begotten Son to die on Calvary’s cross as payment for all our sins. Those that accept Jesus’ payment have the best gift, eternal life with God. We need to love the One that first loved us! He is worthy!

Bad Investments

Edited from an article by De Gasparin, 1871

- Health does not last. To value it too highly is to make a bad investment of your trust.
- Riches depart. To cling to them is to make a bad investment of your trust.
- Science deceives. To devote yourself to it is to make a bad investment of your trust
- Husband, wife, and children often betray, and always die. To attach to and be too dependent may be a bad investment of your trust.

He that loves the creature too much often makes a bad investment of one's trust. The good and infallible investment for your trust is to love God, and to love him with all your heart. God does not die. God does not deceive. God, moreover, is master of us all. Look well in where you put your total trust.

“God nowhere tells us to give up things for the sake of giving them up. He tells us to give them up for the sake of the only thing worth having — life with Himself.” — *Oswald Chamber*

How Great Thou Art

Hymn by Carl Boberg, 1886

O Lord my God! When I in awesome wonder
Consider all the worlds Thy hands have made,
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy power throughout the universe displayed,

Refrain:

*Then sings my soul, my Saviour God to Thee;
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God to Thee;
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!*

When through the woods and forest glades I wander
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze;

Refrain

And when I think that God, His Son not sparing
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in;
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,
He bled and died to take away my sin;

Refrain

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim, my God, how great Thou art!

Refrain