

Little Love, Little Faith, Then What?

(1)

Luke 17:1-10

Intro. A. The highest motive for any sacrificial act is love.

Luke 10:27 1. We are commanded to love God. Deut. 6:4-5

Jhn. 14:15 - If you love me ^{KEEP MY} ~~commandments~~ 2. If we love ^{Him} we will obey Him.

(Not break) 3. Some say we may do wrong in the name of love!

B. The foundation of love and obedience is faith.

I Cor. 13:13 1. Paul wrote of these with the same pen.

"And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three: but the greatest of these is charity."

2. Heb. 11:6 - "But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him."
"impossible" = αδύνατος = deficient in strength or power, infirm

C. When love and faith are weak and frail, what should we do?

1. Some would say, Nothing! They say that if we cannot do an act because of love, God won't honor it.

2. Is there another acceptable motive?

D. There is and that motive is duty.

Vs. 10 b 1. "we have done that which was our duty to do".

"duty" = ὀφείλω = "to owe", "to be indebted", esp. in a money sense

2. Paul used the same word to describe a reason for the Gentiles giving an offering to the poor saints at Jerusalem. Rom. 15:25-28, vs. 27.

3. Here debt and duty are used. The debt is "spiritual things" and the "duty" carnal.

4. In the parable Jesus spoke, both the debt and the duty are spiritual.

B. They did not need more faith but only to use what they already possessed. ☹️

Vs. 6 1. Jesus used an absurdity to teach them.

2. A tiny degree of faith, which they had, would allow them to do spectacular things.

3. They could use the same faith to forgive.

III. Jesus Spoke A Parable To Teach Them To Do What He Commanded Them To Do.

A. The parable of the obedient servant.

Vs. 7-8 1. The servant. (slave) does his work.

2. He comes from the field.

3. He does not eat first.

4. He first serves his master.

B. The servant is not thanked for doing that which is expected of him.

Vs. 9 1. "Doth he thank that servant because he did the things that were commanded him?"

2. "I don't think so".

C. The application of the parable.

Vs. 10 1. "So likewise ye, when ye shall have done all those things which are commanded you, (such as forgiving one another after Rebuke and Repentance)

2. "say, We are unprofitable servants: we have done that which was our duty to do".

"unprofitable" = ἀχρεῖος = "of no use", "not needed"
(any servant could do what had been done)

3. Jesus expected obedience and more.

IV. Application.

1. Jesus has given us many commands and principles.