

# The Second Greatest Commandment

(Mark 12:28-34)

- Introduction:
1. Jesus was once asked by a Scribe what the first, or greatest commandment was (Mark 12:28).
  2. In response, Jesus said, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength."
  3. But then, Jesus gave this man more than he asked for; he gave him the second greatest command which was to "Love your neighbor as yourself" (Mark 12:31).
  4. Let's take a look at this second greatest command.

## I. Attempts at Summarizing God's Commandments

- A. (Micah 6:8)
- B. (Habakkuk 2:4)
- C. Jesus said that loving God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength is the greatest command, and the second one is like it, "Love your neighbor as yourself" (Mark 12:31).
- D. And when speaking within the context of human-to-human relationships, Jesus said the Law and the Prophets are summed up in this, "Whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them" (Matthew 7:12).

## II. Jesus Is Asked a Question?

- A. (Luke 10:25-37).
- B. A Scribe asked Jesus a question, testing him (Luke 10:25).
- C. Jesus asked him what he thought (Luke 10:26).
- D. The Scribe's response was the same response that Jesus gave in Mark 12:30-31).
- E. Jesus commends him for the answer then instructed him to do it.
- F. The Scribe then tries to evade the instruction (Luke 10:29).

## III. Who Is My Neighbor?

- A. (Luke 10:30-37).
- B. Notice who the characters are in this parable.
- C. Notice who the admirable character was.
- D. Notice the things the "good Samaritan" did.

- Conclusion:
1. I don't want you to miss the central component to not only the first commandment, but the second commandment – Love.
  2. May we open our hearts to love more than we ever have before.
  3. This is the heart of what it means to be a child of God.
  4. And again, I want to remind you that if the two greatest commands are to love, then the worst sin would be a failure to do just that.