

Leviticus Laws of Love

Leviticus 19:9-18, 32-34



PROCLAIM
LIBERTY
THROUGHOUT
ALL THE LAND
UNTO ALL THE
INHABITANTS
THEREOF
LEV. XXV. V X.

What is the greatest commandment?

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)



You shall love
the Lord your
God with all
your heart and
with all your
soul and with
all your might.
(Deut 6:5)

Love your
neighbor as
yourself.
(Lev 19:18)

Abundant life in Leviticus

- I am the Lord who brought you up out of the land of Egypt to be your God. You shall therefore be holy, for I am holy. (Lev 11:45)
- Love your neighbor as yourself. (Lev 19:18)
- And you shall consecrate the fiftieth year, and proclaim liberty throughout the land to all its inhabitants. It shall be a jubilee for you, when each of you shall return to his property and each of you shall return to his clan. (Leviticus 25:10)

Help the needy help themselves

9 When you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not reap your field right up to its edge, neither shall you gather the gleanings after your harvest. 10 And you shall not strip your vineyard bare, neither shall you gather the fallen grapes of your vineyard. You shall leave them for the poor and for the sojourner: I am the Lord your God.





Be honest

11 “You shall not steal; you shall not deal falsely; you shall not lie to one another. 12 You shall not swear by my name falsely, and so profane the name of your God: I am the Lord.

Don't bully disadvantaged or disabled people

13 “You shall not oppress your neighbor or rob him. The wages of a hired servant shall not remain with you all night until the morning. 14 You shall not curse the deaf or put a stumbling block before the blind, but you shall fear your God: I am the Lord.



Seek justice

15 “You shall do no injustice in court. You shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great, but in righteousness shall you judge your neighbor. 16 You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not stand up against the life of your neighbor: I am the Lord.

Injustice in court

- You shall not fall in with the many to do evil, nor shall you bear witness in a lawsuit, **siding with the many**, so as to pervert justice, nor shall you be **partial to a poor man** in his lawsuit.” (Exodus 23:2-3)
- If the witness is a false witness and has accused his brother falsely, then you shall **do to him as he had meant to do to his brother.** (Deut 19:18-19)

Love without grudges

17 “You shall not hate your brother in your heart, but you shall reason frankly with your neighbor, lest you incur sin because of him. 18 You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against the sons of your own people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the Lord.

Hate your enemy?

- You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I say to you, Love your enemies. (Matt 5:43-44)
- If you meet your enemy's ox or his donkey going astray, you shall bring it back to him. If you see the donkey of one who hates you lying down under its burden, you shall refrain from leaving him with it; you shall rescue it with him. (Exodus 23:4-5)



Honor old people

32 “You shall stand up before the gray head and honor the face of an old man, and you shall fear your God: I am the Lord.

Love foreigners

33 “When a stranger sojourns with you in your land, you shall not do him wrong.

34 You shall treat the stranger who sojourns with you as the native among you, and you shall love him as yourself, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God.

Who is my
neighbor?



Love fulfills God's law

Love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law. (Rom 13:8-10)