Matthew 22:33-40

When the crowds heard this, they were astonished at his teaching. Hearing that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, the Pharisees got together.

One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question: “Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?”

Jesus replied: “‘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.”
Deuteronomy 6:4-9

Hear, O Israel:
The LORD our God, the LORD is one. Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

Deuteronomy 6:4-9

These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road...

Deuteronomy 6:4-9

...when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.

Luke 10:25-29

On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?"

"What is written in the Law?" he replied. "How do you read it?"

Luke 10:25-29

He answered:

"'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind',
and, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'"

"You have answered correctly," Jesus replied. "Do this and you will live."
LUKE 10:25-29
But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"

COMMUNITY & INVOLVEMENT
the lost art of community and God’s radical design to love your neighbor

THE TRIUNE GOD
Perfect Unity, Relationships, Equality, Roles, Authority & Submission
Matthew 28:19
John 10:30
John 20:21
John 14:26
John 16:17

THE FAMILY
Exodus 20:12, 14, 17
Eph 5:23
Eph 6:1-3
Col 3:20
Prov 16:8
Deut 6:8-9
Eph 6:4
Eph 6:12

THE CHURCH
Exodus 20:12, 14, 17
Eph 4:11
Eph 5:23
Heb 13:17
Eph 4:12

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**Who is my Neighbor?**

Luke 10:29

But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, 

“**And who is my neighbor?”**

Who is my Neighbor?

In reply Jesus said: “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he fell into the hands of robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side...”

Luke 10:30-37

Who is my Neighbor?

So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine.

Luke 10:30-37

Who is my Neighbor?

Then he put the man on his own donkey, took him to an inn and took care of him. The next day he took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper.

‘Look after him,’ he said, ‘and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.’

Luke 10:30-37

Who is my Neighbor?

“Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?”

The expert in the law replied, “The one who had mercy on him.”

Jesus told him, “Go and do likewise.”

Luke 10:30-37
WHO IS MY NEIGHBOR?

Luke 10:29-37
the story of the Good Neighbor
what was the Question?
did Jesus Answer it?
who are the Main Characters?

GOD’S DESIGN FOR THE COMMUNITY

pondering the Word of God...
& looking for the Heart of God...

1 Samuel 2:8
He raises the poor from the dust and lifts the needy from the ash heap; he seats them with princes and has them inherit a throne of honor.

Job 5:11
The lowly he sets on high, and those who mourn are lifted to safety.

Psalm 12:5
“Because of the oppression of the weak and the groaning of the needy, I will now arise,” says the LORD. “I will protect them from those who malign them.”

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Psalm 72:4
He will defend the afflicted among the people and save the children of the needy; he will crush the oppressor.

Psalm 138:6
Though the LORD is on high, he looks upon the lowly, but the proud he knows from afar.

The Heart of God
Psalm 12:5
"Because of the oppression of the weak and the groaning of the needy, I will now arise, says the LORD. "I will protect them from those who malign them."

Community
Lev 19:18
Gal 5:13-14
Rom 13:8-10
James 5:8
Matt 26:33-36
Matt 22:37-40
Prov 14:21
Hab 2:15
Matt 5:43-44
Prov 28:22
Deut 15:11
1 John 3:17

Who are the Needy?
- Poor
- Orphans
- Widows
- Sick
- Prisoners
- Outcasts
- Unpopular
- Neglected
- Left Out
- Homely
- Last
- others...
God’s **Heart for the Needy...**

1 Samuel 2:8
He raises the poor from the dust and lifts the needy from the ash heap...

Deuteronomy 24:14
Do not take advantage of a hired man who is poor and needy...

Deuteronomy Omovlo
LyoLnotLtakeLadvantageLofLaLhiredLmanLwhoLisLpoorL
andLneedyccc

God’s **Heart for the Needy...**

Job 5:15
He saves the needy from the sword in their mouth; he saves them from the clutches of the powerful.

Psalm 72:4
He will defend the afflicted among the people and save the children of the needy; he will crush the oppressor.

God’s **Heart for the Lowly...**

Job 5:11
The lowly he sets on high, and those who mourn are lifted to safety.

Psalm 138:6
Though the LORD is on high, he looks upon the lowly, but the proud he knows from afar.

**Who is Like You?**

Psalm 36:10
My whole being will exclaim, **“Who is like you, O LORD?”**
You rescue the poor from those too strong for them, the poor and needy from those who rob them.

**Who Is This God?**

**Our Source of Truth**

**Focus on the Nature of God**
Foundational Presuppositions

God Is

God Reveals Himself

generally in His creation &
specifically in His written Word

God Reveals Himself to Man

“I revealed myself to those who did not ask for me; I was found by those who did not seek me. To a nation that did not call on my name, I said, ‘Here am I, here am I.’ All day long I have held out my hands to an obstinate people, who walk in ways not good, pursuing their own imaginations—"

Isaiah 65:1-2

Who is this God?

“O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing.”

Matthew 23:37

The Heart of God

“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

Matthew 11:28-29

Metamorphoo

And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord’s glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

2 Corinthians 3:18

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**The Heart of God**

“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

Matthew 11:28-29

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**“Tapeinos”**

He has performed mighty deeds with his arm; he has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts. He has brought down rulers from their thrones but has lifted up the humble.

Luke 1:51-52

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**“Tapeinos”**

But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says: “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.”

Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.

James 4:6,10

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**John 14:4-9**

“You know the way to the place where I am going.” Thomas said to him, “Lord, we don’t know where you are going, so how can we know the way?” Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you really knew me, you would know my Father as well...

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**John 14:4-9**

From now on, you do know him and have seen him.” Philip said, “Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us.” Jesus answered: “Don’t you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father.”

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**DON’T MISTAKE THIS**
2 Timothy 1:7
For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline.

**Humility** is not “Timidity”!

“Man of Steel and Velvet”

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**WHO IS LIKE YOU?**
Psalm 35:10
My whole being will exclaim, “Who is like you, O LORD?
You rescue the poor from those too strong for them, the poor and needy from those who rob them.”

**WHO IS THIS GOD?**

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**THE FIRST AND GREATEST COMMANDMENT**
Jesus replied:

“‘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.”

Matthew 22:37-38

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**AND THE 2ND IS LIKE IT...**

“And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”

Matthew 22:39-40

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**COMMUNITY**

Lev 19:18
Gal 5:13-14
Rom 13:8-10
James 2:8
Matthew 22:39-40
Matthew 25:33-46
Proverbs 14:21
Hebrews 2:15
Matthew 5:43-44
Proverbs 28:27
Deuteronomy 15:11
1 John 3:17

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Involvement

Running from the face of God

"Should I not have compassion on Nineveh, the great city..."

Jonah 4:9-11

But God said to Jonah, "Do you have a right to be angry about the vine?"
"I do," he said.
"I am angry enough to die."

But the LORD said, "You have been concerned about this vine, though you did not tend it or make it grow. It sprang up overnight and died overnight..."

Jonah 4:9-11

But Nineveh has more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who cannot tell their right hand from their left, and many cattle as well. Should I not be concerned about that great city?"
“How Christianity Changed the World”

- People Transformed by Christ
- Sanctification of Human Life
- Elevation of Sexual Morality
- Charity and Compassion
- Dignity of Women
- Hospitals and Health Care
- Education, Labor, Science
- Liberty, Justice, Slavery
- Art, Music, Literature


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3. He was committed to the strategic importance of a band of like-minded friends devoted to working together in chosen ventures.

4. He believed deeply in the power of ideas and moral beliefs to change culture through sustained public persuasion.

5. He was willing to pay a steep cost for his courageous public stands and was persistent in pursuing his life task.


WE ARE IN GOOD COMPANY

“Cloud of Witnesses” (Hebrews 11)

Early Christians Later Christians

“...the world was not worthy of them.”

“What Do I Do?”

I have No clue...

God Cares, do I?

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