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## Simple

Many, Many Christians cannot figure out why they lost the closer fellowship with the Lord they once had.

**John 14.13-15** And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it.

**If ye love me, keep my commandments.**

You see, God loves us more than we could ever imagine, **BUT** he has statutes and stipulations for us to receive these promises, in verse 15 of John 14 he says, **IF YOU LOVE ME**, keep my commandments. Jesus only gave us three commandments under the NEW covenant. And they are, **#1**

**Matthew 22:37** 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.

**#2**

**Matthew 22:39** And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.

**#3**

**John 13:34** A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.

All the old covenant laws and other stipulations he has written them upon our hearts. The old covenant laws had some sort of punishment attached if you didn't keep them, and if you kept them then there was a blessing attached. UNDER THE NEW, the punishment is done away with as Christ took ALL our punishment upon himself. BUT all the blessings remain in tact for all those that do his bidding willingly. One quick example is tithing.

Under the old covenant, **Malachi 3:8** Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings.

**Malachi 3:9** Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation.

Under the NEW Covenant, **Mark 4:24** And he said unto them, Take heed what ye hear: with what measure ye mete, (give) it shall be measured to you: and unto you that hear (listen & obey) shall more be given.

The blessing promised: **Malachi 3:11-12** And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the LORD of hosts. And all nations shall call you blessed: for ye shall be a delightsome land, saith the LORD of hosts.

**2Corinthians 9:7** Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.

**Matthew 6:33** But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

You see, God will NOT settle for second best, after all, HE gave us his best (Jesus) and we are by nature, sinful beings.

We, in return give him whats left over, if he is lucky, YET we have no problem putting our fleshly desires first. Satan has a field day with this type of attitude.

**Acts 17:30** And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent:

I firmly believe that God in his infinite Mercy and Grace over the last

two thousand years has winked at a lot of our shortcomings even though he has given us lots of instruction and warnings.

**Hebrews 10:25 Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.**

**You say What Day?** The day when our Lord comes back in the air to take his church out of this world (Rapture). This will consist of Jew and Gentile that puts Christ First in their life. The Apostle Paul calls it a prize, **1Co 9:24 Php 3:14** .

**1Thessalonians 4:16-18 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.**

**Wherefore comfort one another with these words.**

**Revelation 3.10-11 Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth. Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown.**

**1Peter 1:16 Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.**

**If you haven't been putting the Lord first, then repent, Mt 25:1-13 says only 50% are ready**

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