

A pair of white and green sneakers is shown from a top-down perspective. The sneakers have white uppers with green accents on the toe box and midsole. The laces are white. A dark grey semi-transparent box with rounded corners is centered over the sneakers, containing the text "Happy Father's Day!" in a green, bubbly, cursive font with a white outline and a drop shadow.

*Happy
Father's Day!*



DAD JOKE LOADING



PLEASE WAIT

Mark 12:28-34

28 And one of the scribes came up and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, asked him, "Which commandment is the most important of all?" 29 Jesus answered, "The most important is, 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. 30 And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.'

Mark 12:28-34

31 The second is this: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these." 32 And the scribe said to him, "You are right, Teacher. You have truly said that he is one, and there is no other besides him. 33 And to love him with all the heart and with all the understanding and with all the strength, and to love one's neighbor as oneself, is much more than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices."

Mark 12:28-34

34 And when Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." And after that no one dared to ask him any more questions.

An Honest Question?

28 And one of the scribes came up and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, asked him, "Which commandment is the most important of all?"

““The sense of the question is thus not which is the most important commandment, but rather which commandment supersedes everything and is incumbent on all humanity—including Gentiles.

Mark 12:28-34

29 Jesus answered, "The most important is, 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. 30 And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.'

move from the
but every one of the
dren of Israel shall keep himself to his
own inheritance.
10 Even as the Lord commanded
Moses, so did the daughters of Zelo-
phehad:
11 For Mahlah, Tirzah, and Hog-
lah, and Milcah, and Noah, the daugh-

26:13
*Lev. 22:4
1ch. 26:2
& 22:50

pleasure of their
the
*That is some other name of the families

The Fifth Book of Moses, called
Deuteronomy

In this book the Israelites were camped just east of the Jordan River, making prepara-
tions for crossing into Canaan. These Israelites were a new generation, most of whom
were not alive at the time of the exodus and the encampment at Mount Sinai. So Moses
gave them a comprehensive review of everything that happened during the forty years in
the wilderness, stressing two things: Israel's unfaithfulness and God's faithfulness. He
urged the new generation of Israelites not to repeat the sins of the past and to keep d
igently all of God's laws. The name Deuteronomy, which means "second law," reflects
repetition of these matters, particularly the repetition of the law (chapter 5).

Moses tells of God's guidance
THESE ARE the words which Moses
spoke unto all Israel on this side
the wilderness, in the plain
between

1:1
*Josh. 9:1,10
1:2
*Num. 13:26
ch. 9:23
1:3
*Num. 23:28

unto Lebanon, unto the great riv-
er Euphrates.
8 Behold, I have cset the
fore you: go in and possess
which the LORD sware unt
thers, ^hAbraham, Isaac, an
give unto them and to the

Commanded to Love God...

- With all your heart
- With all your soul
- With all your mind
- With all your strength

Love Your Neighbor

31 The second is this: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these."

Mark 12:28-34

32 And the scribe said to him, "You are right, Teacher. You have truly said that he is one, and there is no other besides him. 33 And to love him with all the heart and with all the understanding and with all the strength, and to love one's neighbor as oneself, is much more than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices."

Hosea 6:6

6 For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice,
the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings.

The Scribe has...

- Understanding of the Law
- Insight that love is greater than sacrifice
 - (and that God desires our love more than *"whole burnt offerings and sacrifices"*)

The Scribe lacks...

- Jesus

You Are Not Far

34 And when Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." And after that no one dared to ask him any more questions.



**I can buy myself flowers
Write my name in the sand
Talk to myself for hours
Say things you don't understand
I can take myself dancing
And I can hold my own hand
Yeah, I can love me better than you can**

- Miley Cyrus, "Flowers" 2023



“The order in which Jesus declares the commandments implies that love of God is prerequisite to loving one’s neighbor. The Greek word for “love” in vv. 30–31 is *agapan*, which in the NT is the form of love characteristic of God (1 John 4:7; 1 Corinthians 13). Whoever does not find the source of love in God will fail to exhibit God’s unique love to one’s neighbor. Love of God is prior to love of neighbor and establishes its possibility. For Jesus, love fulfills the law: love for God releases the love of God.

Luke 10:29

29 But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus,
"And who is my neighbor?"

The Summary of the Law

29 Jesus answered, "The most important is, 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. 30 And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' 31 The second is this: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these."

We Were Made to Love God

- The heart was made to *treasure God*
- The soul was made to *experience God*
- The mind was made to *know God*
- The strength was made to *cling to God*





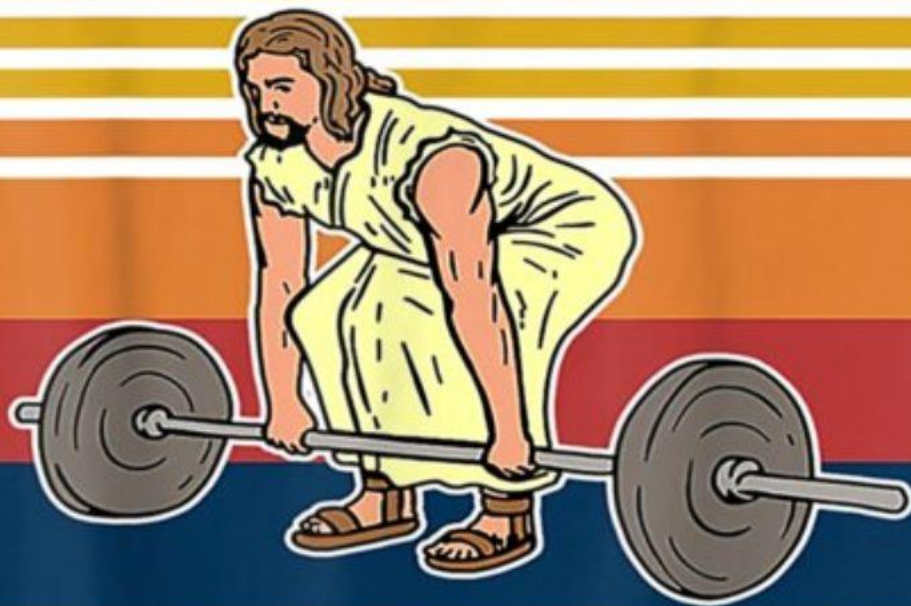
““ But consider Jesus. Was there any portion of the Lord’s heart that was not completely in love with the Father? Did Jesus restrain His soul from affection for His Father? Was there anything that the Father revealed that Jesus ignored as being unworthy of His attention? Was His affection for His Father a spineless, weak affection, or did He manifest the most powerful, strong affection for the Father ever seen on this planet?

-Mark, R.C. Sproul

“ You know the answers to these questions. The Lord Jesus kept the Great Commandment perfectly. Every second of His life He loved the Father with all of His heart, all of His soul, all of His mind, and all of His strength. Had He not done that, He would not have fulfilled the law of God and would not have been worthy to save Himself, let alone save us.

-Mark, R.C. Sproul

JESUS



THE ULTIMATE DEADLIFTER

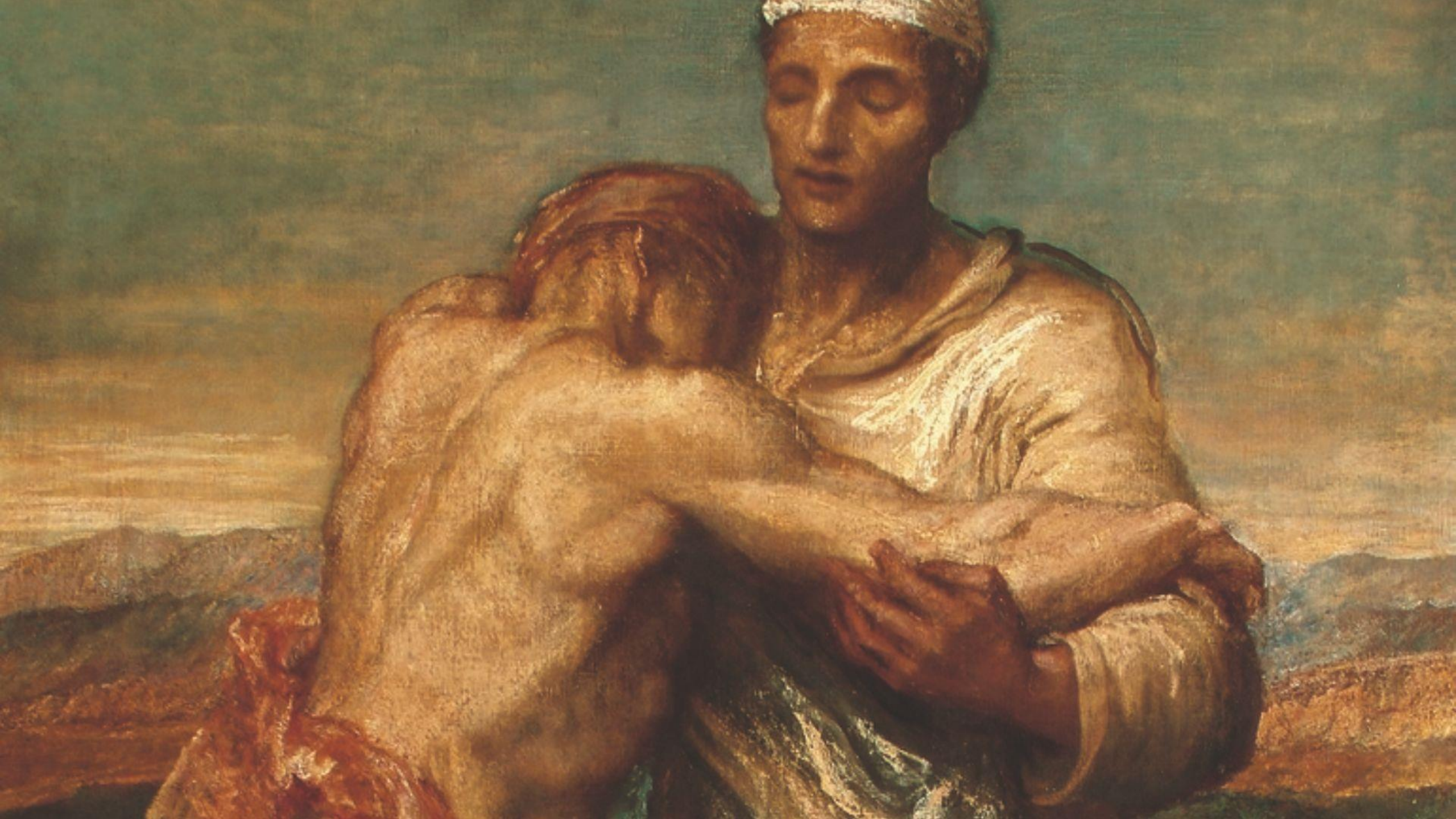


1 John 4:7-11

7 Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. 8 Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.

1 John 4:7-11

9 In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. 10 In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. 11 Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.



Gospel Response

Start: The kingdom is near, because the King has come near. Will you ask him to save you?

Strengthen: Delight in the way God has loved you with all your heart, mind, soul, and strength and see how he uses that.