**THE BLESSING OF LOVING GOD**

**FULLY COMMITTED**

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

*Deuteronomy 6:4-9*

* *Read Exodus 2:23-25*

*Comment:*

 The people from Israel lived in slavery; they were under the control of the king of Egypt; they were in bondage and were tired and they cried out.

***Application:***

***We can be slaves of the enemy through our sins or addictions, when this happens the fundamental question is how I get out of the bondage to a new life***

***Ask: Do you know anyone that is under the control of the enemy or under the control of any sin? What do they do to free him/herself from this situation?***

*Comment: For the people of Israel 2 things happened to have a new life (Exodus 2:23-25*

* *The Israelites groaned in their slavery and cried out*
* *God heard their groaning, and he remembered his covenant*

**The Israelites groaned in their slavery and cried out**

When we groan and cry it means that we are desperate, our burden is not an easy one that can be fixed by a quick prayer at nighttime or before a meal.

The Israelites before they groaned and cried, they didn’t make the connection between his condition of slavery and their spiritual condition, they thought that their problem as social and not spiritual.

***Application***

***The enemy wants to eliminate the spiritual connection from our actual condition that way he keep God our of our thoughts; the devil wants to eliminate the spiritual in our live to have us focus on the physical and visual.***

***When we don’t see that the problem is spiritual, and we see only the manifestation of the physical and visual we will try to fix it with tools and things of this world, and we are never going to fix the issue from the root***

***If we keep treating only the symptoms, we never going to fix the problem***

**God heard their groaning, and he remembered his covenant** (Exodus 2:24-25)

The second thing that happened was that God remembered his covenant, God made a covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob … I will make you a great nation; this covenant has transferred to us.

The Israelites groaned and cried to God to ask Him to remember his covenant, the groan and cry connect them to the promise of God because they remember God; because while pharaoh was alive the covenant was with him and not with God. God remember his covenant because the Israelites remember Him.

* *Read Exodus 3:7-8*

When God saw their misery, He came down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey the home of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites.

***Application:***

***Ask: Have you ever been in a situation that you try to solve by yourself and at the end when you remember God, you cried and He with his infinite love save you?***

Comment:

We must understand that when we cry and love God, he is allowed to come down and activate his covenant, his protection, and his blessing in our life

Deuteronomy is a book that is called also: the second chance, the second law; in here we see that the Israelites are ready to enter the new land.

Moses was moved by the Holy Spirit and instructed the people on how the Lord want them to interpreter this new life.

* *Read* *Deuteronomy 6:1-5 (emphasis on verse 4 and 5)*

Comment:

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 6:4-5

For the Israelites, this is called “the Shema”. Is the Hebrew word for “listen”. Is the first scripture that a Jewish child have to learn. Many faithful Hebrews pray the Shema twice a day, once in the morning and once in the night.

***Application:***

***Ask: What does love God with all your heart, with all your soul, and all your strengths means to you?***

The implication of loving God is that we love Him with a complete commitment, a complete committed in:

* Our heart
* Our soul
* Our strength

Comment:

There is no place for a divided love.

Love God with all your heart means with everything that is inside of you

Love God with your soul means with everything that is part of you

Love God with all your strengths means with everything we are

Your heart represents the center of who you are:

* What you wish
* Your passions
* Your decisions

Your soul represents the life you live, yourself, the person, and characteristics of whom you are

With all your strengths is a call to love God with everything; your spouse, your children, your belongings, resources, time … all our being.

Our Lord included “with all our mind”, this means in the way we think.

Comment:

To love the Lord, it is not only by words, but we must also show our faith in the way we live by obeying His commands and his word.

Though the book of Deuteronomy there is a connection between love God and be obedient.

* *Read Deuteronomy 10:12 / 11:1 / 11:13*

When there is love there is obedience, if we love God we follow His commands, our expression of loving God is not only in words. It expresses in obedience.

* *Read John 14:15 / John 14;21,23 / John 5:3*

When they ask Jesus what was the most important of His commandments, he responded with the Shema.

But then he added a new one: Love one another as I love you. Jesus was saying that each one of you love one another, you are doing what I ask you to do, and then you are loving me.

If you love me and love one another you will not hurt your neighbor (Matthew 22:37,39)

* *Read Romans 13:8-10*

The truth manifestation of Love is the fact that God love us first, even when we disobey; the creator of the universe selected us to have a relationship with us

* *Read 1 John 4:10 and 19*

Jesus measured how we much we love him by understanding how much He has forgiven us

When one of the Pharisees invited Jesus to have dinner with him, he went to the Pharisee’s house and reclined at the table. A woman in that town who lived a sinful life learned that Jesus was eating at the Pharisee’s house, so she came there with an alabaster jar of perfume. As she stood behind him at his feet weeping, she began to wet his feet with her tears. Then she wiped them with her hair, kissed them and poured perfume on them.

When the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he said to himself, “If this man were a prophet, he would know who is touching him and what kind of woman she is—that she is a sinner.”

Jesus answered him, “Simon, I have something to tell you.”

“Tell me, teacher,” he said.

“Two people owed money to a certain moneylender. One owed him five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. Neither of them had the money to pay him back, so he forgave the debts of both. Now which of them will love him more?”

Simon replied, “I suppose the one who had the bigger debt forgiven.”

“You have judged correctly,” Jesus said.

Then he turned toward the woman and said to Simon, “Do you see this woman? I came into your house. You did not give me any water for my feet, but she wet my feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair. You did not give me a kiss, but this woman, from the time I entered, has not stopped kissing my feet. You did not put oil on my head, but she has poured perfume on my feet. Therefore, I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven—as her great love has shown. But whoever has been forgiven little loves little.”

* *Read Luke 7:44-47*