



Cornerstone Church
OF KNOXVILLE

Main Point: Love God and love your neighbor

1. Jesus is Lord
2. Love is His command

#1:

“The second commandment that Jesus cited comes from a chapter in Leviticus in which God’s laws for living were spelled out. There we are not left in doubt about what love for our neighbor means. It is far more concrete than what we moderns might assume...It has to do with stealing, lying, slandering, committing injustice, or acting unkindly. This love has much to do with acting justly. This kind of justice has a far greater range of application than what we typically think of when we hear the word justice. Today, this word usually comes up in the context of the courts...But in this passage from Leviticus, acting justly has the sense of acting ethically, of being fair, being upright, caring enough for the other to do what is right by him or her...This love not only acts justly but will want to see that justice is done for others.”

David Wells

God in the Whirlwind: How the Holy-love of God Reorients Our World

#2:

“This is our heart for Minneapolis. We seek her welfare. We pray on her behalf. For those who knew George Floyd best and loved him most, bring them your consolation, and direct their hearts to the God of all comfort. For Derek Chauvin, who put his knee on Floyd’s neck for seven minutes, until he died, we ask for the mercy of repentance and the judgment of justice. For officers Thomas Lane and Tou Thao and Alexander Kueng, who stood by, we pray that grief and fear will bear the fruit of righteous remorse; and may the seriousness of the killing and the cowardice of the complicity meet with proper penalties. For the upright police who have watched all ten minutes of the unbearable video of Floyd’s dying, who consider it “horrific” and “inhuman,” who find it unbelievable that Chauvin did not say a single word for seven minutes as the man under his knee pled for his life, and who lament with dashed hopes that they must start again from “square one” to rebuild what meager trust they hoped to have won — for these worthy servants of our city, we pray that they would know the patient endurance of Jesus Christ, who suffered for deeds he did not do.”

John Piper

#3:

“Do you not find within yourself an unceasing low-grade impulse to strengthen his saving work through your own contribution? We tend to operate as if Hebrews 7:25 says that Jesus ‘is able to save for the most part those who draw near to God through him.’ But the salvation Christ brings is...comprehensive.”

Dane Ortlund

Gentle and Lowly: The Heart of Christ for Sinners and Sufferers

#4:

Matthew 5:19

“Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.”

#5:

“This agape-love, rooted in and arising from the character of God, is constantly undoing what is done in the world. At least it undoes the consequences of sin in the context of personal relations. When unkind, nasty, demeaning, or despicable acts occur, they do have an indelible nature. What is done has been done. It stands there. It is a kind of irremovable witness that will not be silenced...And yet, while this is true, it is not the whole story. The past is, indeed, indelible. In the one afflicted, it lives on in the memory, maybe for a lifetime. But kindness, patience, and forgiveness reach across the divide to the other...They remove the presence of that irremovable witness. It is as if that witness is no longer there. And to the one who is forgiving, this act itself dissolves the poisonous inward consequences of the bad things that have been said or done. To the one forgiven, it opens a new chapter.”

David Wells

God in the Whirlwind: How the Holy-love of God Reorients Our World

#6:

1 John 4:20

“If anyone says, “I love God,” and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen.”

#7:

“It is natural for us to love our (family) and our friends...But it is not natural to love with agape-love those who are unlike ourselves, or those who offend us...It is natural for us as sinners to love ourselves. That is, we have an eye out for our own interests; we protect those interests, seek advantages for ourselves, become irritated when we do not get our own way, and we are willing to step over others in pursuit of that self-interest. All of this comes quite naturally to us. What is unnatural in a fallen world is this agape-love...This love is of another “age,” but this other “age” is now breaking into our world and is being made redemptively present through Christ’s cross. That is what lies behind this other-oriented kind of love. It puts others ahead of that self-interest which is so persistent and so loud in our fallen nature...”

David Wells

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#8:

1 John 4:11, 19-20

“Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another...We love because he first loved us. 20 If anyone says, “I love God,” and hates his brother, he is a liar...”