

Love For God

(Selected Scriptures)

Introduction: Has your passion for God left?
Scripture has many admonitions to love God.

I. Love for God is the automatic response to His love for you

I John 4:19

****In order for us to truly love God, we must know (be assured of) His sacrificial love for us.**

The woman, who loved much: See Luke 7

Lu 7:47 Wherefore I say unto thee, Her sins, which are many, are forgiven; for she loved much: but to whom little is forgiven, *the same* loveth little.

Love for God is the grand mark of a true child of God

II. Love for God is the Greatest of all Commands - Matthew 22:37-40

HOW should we love God?

When we love God totally (with our whole being), He is:

1. The center of my affections
2. The center of my life
3. The center of my thoughts
4. The center of my activity

III. Love for God is the secret to a fulfilled Christian life

A. Loving God is the key to cheerful obedience

(The greatest stimulus [motivating factor] to obeying God is to love Him)

I Jn. 5:3

View all temptation as a test of your love for God. Go to the Lord in prayer and say: "God I really want to give in to this temptation, but you are worthy of my obedience. I love you. And I offer my obedience to you as a sweet sacrifice to you."

B. Loving God is the key to close fellowship with Christ

Jn. 14:23

C. Loving God is the key to blessedness.

Rom. 8:28; Ja. 1:12 *SEE Psalm 91:14-16

The Greatest detractor from having Love for God is Love for the World (or the things in the World) - I John 2:15

*Good substitutes cannot replace your first love! (Example: the Church of Ephesus: Rev. 2:1-f)