



# Love Him Right

<http://www.adamantbeliever.com/lovehimright.pdf>

©2017 G. Craige Works All Rights Reserved

- The problem that many of us face in our walk with Christ is the love of earthly things. Many of us love things so much that we cannot give up certain things for the sake of Christ. *John 12:25 He that loveth his life shall lose it; and he that hateth his life in this world shall keep it unto life eternal.*
- The love of things can hurt us and our walk with the Lord. If we value things above the well being of others, then we are not where Christ wants us to be. *1John 2:15 Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.*
- The love of things comes when we desire to please others, make others feel like we are equal to them or even better than them. This behavioral mechanism is an attempt to mask the true deficits of low self worth and esteem in our own lives. *Phil. 2:3 Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves.*



- The Word of God tells us that in the last days, the love of many shall wax cold. This verse means that people will stop caring about the needs of others and make their own pleasures and passions more important. *Matt. 24:12 And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold.*
- When we seek to please ourselves and get what we want, we will continue to walk in selfishness and greed, while missing God's plan. Greed will lead to sin and eventually shame. *Phil. 3:19 Whose end is destruction, whose God is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame, who mind earthly things.)*
- Until a person learns how to forsake their fleshly desires, they will constantly intertwine what God wants with their own plans. This cycle creates a religious, prideful person whose confidence is based on their possessions and achievements. *Rom. 8:13 for if you are living according to the flesh, you must die; but if by the Spirit you are putting to death the deeds of the body, you will live.*



- Religious pride is dangerous because it causes us to make proclamations and promises that we cannot live up to. We try to look better in the eyes of others which causes us to hide who we really are. *Prov. 16:18 Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.*
- Hiding our true self from others is essentially hiding from God because if we are not being who God desires for us to be, then we are hypocrites in His eyes. *Matt. 23:27 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye are like unto whited sepulchres, which indeed appear beautiful outward, but are within full of dead men's bones, and of all uncleanness.*
- This is why it is impossible to love God and the world. You cannot love God in private but live to please others in public. When we pretend to be something that we are not, we are doing it to be better than someone else. We cannot shame or tear down others for our own benefit. *Prov. 11:9 An hypocrite with his mouth destroyeth his neighbour: but through knowledge shall the just be delivered.*



# Summary

---



Peter was a man that thought that he loved God more than everyone else. He bragged on his love and even went to great lengths to prove his love by cutting off the ear of the soldier. He swore that he could never betray Christ because he loved Him so much. But Peter's love was a proud, selfish love that was rooted in the opinions of others. Peter wasn't ready to give up everything for Christ's sake. He wasn't in love with Christ at all. In fact, Peter was in love with the power of Christ and how being with Christ made him feel. If he really loved Christ, he would not have denied Him.

Peter had a change of heart after he learned that his love was superficial and not spiritual. And Christ told him that if he really loved Him, he would give up his own life for others, just as Christ had done. Jesus told Peter "if you love me, feed my sheep" meaning, considering others instead of yourself is how you show your love for God. Peter took heed and eventually became a great witness for Christ and died upholding His name, because he gave up his own wants and needs for the needs of God's people. Sacrificing ourselves is the highest place that we can get to in Christ. We must give up our lives for others, if we want to follow Him.

*John 15:10 If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love.*

*John 15:11 These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full.*

*John 15:12 This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you.*

*John 15:13 Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.*