
What Not to Love: 10 Improper Focuses of Your Love

1. You Are Not to Love _____ (Matthew 6:24)

“No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.” (cp Luke 14:33)

Οὐδείς δύναται δυοὶ κυρίοις δουλεύειν· ἢ γὰρ τὸν ἓνα μισήσει καὶ τὸν ἕτερον ἀγαπήσει, ἢ ἐνὸς ἀνθέξεται καὶ τοῦ ἑτέρου καταφρονήσει. οὐ δύνασθε θεῷ δουλεύειν καὶ μαμωνᾷ.

What is love? An object of love is something:

- that governs my time, efforts, and resources (master!);
- that I pay attention to;
- that I give preference to;
- that I am loyal to - | I ♥ Country | I ♥ Jesus |

The object of true love is exclusive – you cannot have two loves.

Possessions – Luke 8:14; 14:33; 2 Pet 3:10; Jesus; Apostles

2. You Are Not to Love _____ (Luke 11:43)

“Woe to you Pharisees! For you love the best seats in the synagogues and greetings in the marketplaces.” (cp 1 Jn 2:16)

Οὐαὶ ὑμῖν τοῖς Φαρισαίοις, ὅτι ἀγαπᾶτε τὴν πρωτοκαθεδρίαν ἐν ταῖς συναγωγαῖς καὶ τοὺς ἀσπασμούς ἐν ταῖς ἀγοραῖς.

3. You Are Not to Love _____ (in _____ of God) (Luke 14:26)

“If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and his own life also, he cannot be My disciple.” (cp Matt 5:43ff – not feeling)

εἴ τις ἔρχεται πρὸς με καὶ οὐ μισεῖ τὸν πατέρα ἑαυτοῦ καὶ τὴν μητέρα καὶ τὴν γυναῖκα καὶ τὰ τέκνα καὶ τοὺς ἀδελφούς καὶ τὰς ἀδελφὰς ἕτι τε καὶ τὴν ψυχὴν ἑαυτοῦ, οὐ δύναται εἶναί μου μαθητής.

4. You Are Not to Love _____ (John 3:19)

“And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.”

αὕτη δέ ἐστιν ἡ κρίσις ὅτι τὸ φῶς ἐλήλυθεν εἰς τὸν κόσμον καὶ ἠγάπησαν οἱ ἄνθρωποι μᾶλλον τὸ σκότος ἢ τὸ φῶς· ἦν γὰρ αὐτῶν ποιηρὰ τὰ ἔργα.

5. You Are Not to Love _____ (John 12:43)

“for they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God.”

ἠγάπησαν γὰρ τὴν δόξαν τῶν ἀνθρώπων μᾶλλον ἢπερ τὴν δόξαν τοῦ θεοῦ.

6. You Are Not to Love _____ & _____ (John 21:15-16)

“So when they had eaten breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, ‘Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me more than these?’ He said to Him, ‘Yes, Lord; You know that I love You.’ He said to him, ‘Feed My lambs.’ He said to him again a second time, ‘Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me?’ He said to Him, ‘Yes, Lord; You know that I love You.’ He said to him, ‘Tend My sheep.’”

“Ὅτε οὖν ἠρίστησαν λέγει τῷ Σίμωνι Πέτρῳ ὁ Ἰησοῦς· Σίμων Ἰωάννου, ἀγαπᾶς με πλέον τούτων; λέγει αὐτῷ· ναὶ κύριε, σὺ οἶδας ὅτι φιλῶ σε. λέγει αὐτῷ· βόσκει τὰ ἀρνία μου. λέγει αὐτῷ πάλιν δεύτερον· Σίμων Ἰωάννου, ἀγαπᾶς με; λέγει αὐτῷ· ναὶ κύριε, σὺ οἶδας ὅτι φιλῶ σε. λέγει αὐτῷ· ποιμαίνε τὰ πρόβατά μου.

7. You Are Not to Love this _____ Time (2 Tim 4:10)

“for Demas has forsaken me, having loved this present world, and has departed for Thessalonica -- Crescens for Galatia, Titus for Dalmatia.”

Δημᾶς γὰρ με ἐγκατέλιπεν ἀγαπήσας τὸν νῦν αἰῶνα καὶ ἐπορεύθη εἰς Θεσσαλονίκην, Κρήσκης εἰς Γαλατίαν, Τίτος εἰς Δαλματίαν·

8. You Are Not to Love the _____ of Sin (2 Pet 2:15)

“They have forsaken the right way and gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of Beor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness”

καταλείποντες εὐθείαν ὁδὸν ἐπλανήθησαν, ἐξακολουθήσαντες τῇ ὁδῷ τοῦ Βαλαάμ τοῦ Βοσόρ, ὃς μισθὸν ἀδικίας ἠγάπησεν

9. You Are Not to Love the _____ of Earth (1 Jn 2:15-16)

“Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.”

Μὴ ἀγαπᾶτε τὸν κόσμον μηδὲ τὰ ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ. εἰάν τις ἀγαπᾷ τὸν κόσμον, οὐκ ἔστιν ἡ ἀγάπη τοῦ πατρὸς ἐν αὐτῷ·

10. You Are Not to Love Your _____ Life (Rev 12:11)

“And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death.”

καὶ αὐτοὶ ἐνίκησαν αὐτὸν διὰ τὸ αἷμα τοῦ ἀρνίου καὶ διὰ τὸν λόγον τῆς μαρτυρίας αὐτῶν καὶ οὐκ ἠγάπησαν τὴν ψυχὴν αὐτῶν ἄχρι θανάτου.