



# F. Y. C.

**For Your Consideration**

❖ FEBRUARY 2019 ❖

## **The Substance of the Law and the Prophets**

*And He said to him, "YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND." This is the great and foremost commandment. The second is like it, 'YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF. **On these two commandments depend the whole Law and the Prophets.**"* Matthew 22:37-40

*Jesus answered, "The foremost is, 'HEAR, O ISRAEL! THE LORD OUR GOD IS ONE LORD; AND YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND, AND WITH ALL YOUR STRENGTH. The second is this, 'YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.' **There is no other commandment greater than these.**"* Mark 12:29-31

**All commandments and admonitions in the Old Testament are based on these two commandments.**



## **FULFILLING THE LAW THROUGH LOVE**

*Owe nothing to anyone except to love one another; for he who loves his neighbor has **fulfilled the law.** For this, "YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT ADULTERY, YOU SHALL NOT MURDER, YOU SHALL NOT STEAL, YOU SHALL NOT COVET," and if there is **any other commandment, it is summed up** in this saying, "YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF." Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the **fulfillment of the law.*** Romans 13:8-10

*If, however, you are **fulfilling the royal law** according to the Scripture, "YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF," you are doing well.* James 2:8

**All commandments and admonitions in the New Testament are based on these two commandments.**



## **THESE TWO**

**One's relation with God.**

**One's relationship with his fellow man (neighbor).**

(**Bold** emphases mine)

*Do not let what you WANT cause you to forget what you HAVE.*

❖ Contentment – being satisfied with things as they are. ❖

## **‘I’m Glad My Glass Is Half-full’**

It isn't that I wouldn't appreciate having more. Yes, there are things that would make life fuller and richer. It's just that I'm glad there isn't less in my glass. Rather than be concerned over what's missing, I treasure what I have. That's contentment!

### **A LEARNED ATTITUDE**

*Not that I speak from want, for I have learned to be content in whatever circumstances I am.*

Philippians 4:11

### **LIFE 101**

It's a course everyone takes. How well one does depends on the individual. It's possible to fail this class as well as pass it. Class exercises include: Success and Failure. Disappointment and Satisfaction. Gain and Loss. Some will be required to take extra courses: Pain and Discomfort. Tragic Events and Trials. Persecution and Ostracized. All of this in an environment where there may be sudden or unexpected changes encountered. Failure to learn can cause one to look for someone or something to blame, including God.

### **CONSIDER THIS**

*But godliness actually is a means of great gain **when accompanied by contentment.***

*For we have brought nothing into the world, **so we cannot take anything out of it either.***

*If we have food and covering, **with these we shall be content.***

1 Timothy 6:6-8

### **WARNING**

*But those who **want to get rich** fall into temptation and a snare and many foolish and harmful desires which plunge men into ruin and destruction. For the **love of money is a root of all sorts of evil**, and some by longing for it have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.*

1 Timothy 6:9-10

*He who loves money will not be satisfied with money, nor he who loves abundance with its income.*

*This too is vanity.*

Ecclesiastes 5:10

### **Burden or Blessing?**

Do you have to do house upkeep and repairs? **Be glad** you own one.

Do you have to carry in bags of groceries? **Be glad** you have an abundant supply of food.

Do you have bills that come due each month? **Be glad** you have the funds to pay them.

Do you have to drive to work in rush hour traffic? **Be glad** you have a car and employment.

Do you have to do seemingly endless chores for the family? **Be glad** you have a family.

**BEEN THERE — DONE THAT**  
*Learning from the mistakes  
and successes of others.*

The word of the LORD came to Jonah the son of Amittai saying, “Arise, go to Nineveh the great city and cry against it, for their wickedness has come up before Me.” But Jonah rose up to flee to Tarshish from the presence of the LORD. Jonah 1:1-3

**Flee from God? Impossible!**

To attempt to flee from God is vain. He is everywhere. He knows all, He sees all. As the psalmist wrote: *Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? If I ascend to heaven, You are there; If I make my bed in Sheol, behold, You are there.*

Psalm 139:7-8

**Foolish to Deny God**

Today, some deny God’s existence, or declare Him dead. Others attempt to remove all thoughts of Him from their minds. But this too is vanity.

*Why are the nations in an uproar And the peoples devising a vain thing? The kings of the earth take their stand And the rulers take counsel together Against the LORD and against His Anointed, saying, “Let us tear their fetters apart And cast away their cords from us!” He who sits in the heavens laughs, the LORD scoffs at them.*

Psalms 2:1-4

**FOOLISHNESS**

*The fool has said in his heart,  
“There is no God.”*

Psalm 14:1

**WISDOM**

*The fear of the LORD is the beginning  
of knowledge; Fools despise  
wisdom and instruction.*

Proverbs 1:7



**DRIVE FRIENDLY**

Highway signs along the roads in Texas read: “Drive Friendly.” (Friendly defined: favorably disposed; not antagonistic; amicable.)

One may obey the rules of the road out of obligation. (The law requires consideration of other drivers.) However, this sign encourages consideration based on relationship, not obligation. There is a lesson here in our dealing with other people, not only on the roads, but in everyday life.

One may consider others out of obligation (compelled: “have to”). However, the Scriptures teach that our consideration of others should be based on relationship. In living with others, and before God, it takes more than right actions. It takes the right attitude: “love” combined with “law.”

*And if I give all my possessions to feed the poor,  
and if I deliver my body to be burned, but do not  
have love, it profits me nothing.*

1 Corinthians 13:3

James sums it up well:

*If, however, you are fulfilling the royal law,  
according to the Scripture, “You shall love your  
neighbor as yourself,” you are doing well.*

James 2:8

**Live friendly!**

Forbidden fruit may taste sweet, but it leaves an awful aftertaste!



## Ponder This Projection Thinking

What is the probable outcome?  
What will be the end result?  
Where will it lead?

It is prudent to ask the aforementioned questions whenever considering a course of action. Failing to do so, one may find himself or herself in an undesirable situation.

Preventative is better than remedial. It's easier to avoid a problem, than to untangle oneself from it. It's foolish not to consider a matter before engaging in it.

*“For which one of you, when he wants to build a tower, does not first sit down and calculate the cost, to see if he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation, and is not able to finish, all who observe it begin to ridicule him, saying, ‘This man began to build and was not able to finish.’ Or what king, when he sets out to meet another king in battle, will not first sit down and take counsel whether he is strong enough with ten thousand men to encounter the one coming against him with twenty thousand? Or else, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks terms of peace.”* Luke 14:29-31

Christians must not be myopic (near-sighted), looking only at the moment. When some sneer at considering “Where will it lead?,” it's usually because they don't like the answer. Counting the cost—projection thinking—is a must!

***It's better to “sleep on it” beforehand than to lie awake afterwards.***

## REMEMBER NEVER FORGET

Some things we need to remember!

### WHAT IS WRITTEN

*This is now, beloved, the second letter I am writing to you in which I am stirring up your sincere mind by way of reminder, that you should **remember the words spoken** beforehand by the holy prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior spoken by your apostles.* 2 Peter 3:1-2

One of the best ways to remember is by application. The knowledge we gain needs to be acted upon at every opportunity. Knowledge has a way of becoming dim in our memory through disuse. Recalling what you learned in school (and passed with flying colors) is not so easy now. (*I can attest to that personally.*)

### KNOW THE WORD

*Now these were more noble-minded than those in Thessalonica, for they **received the word with great eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily** to see whether these things were so.* Acts 17:11

### APPLY IT DAILY

*And He was saying to them all, “If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross **daily and follow Me.**”* Luke 9:23

F.Y.C. is a monthly publication by Ron Adams.

Bible references are from the NASB except where another translation is referenced.

Past Issues are archived at <http://ra10ar.com>

All rights reserved. © 2019