**If Ye Love Me, Keep My Commandments**

John 14:15 “If ye love me, keep my commandments.”

* If we really love God, we will live by His word
* If we don’t keep his commandments, then do we really love Him?

John 15:14 “Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you.”

* If we don’t do what Jesus commands, we must not really be his friend

Tit 1:16 “They profess that they know God; but in works they deny him, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate.”

* You can tell if a person truly knows God by if he practices God’s good works

John 14:21 “He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him.”

* We love God by keeping His commandments
* God loves everybody in a sense, but he only loves those (in the sense of giving them salvation) that keep His commandments

John 14:23 “Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.”

* There is a one to one correlation between loving God and keeping God’s words
* God only loves (blesses spiritually) those who keep His words

Rev 22:14 “Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.”

* Only those who keep God’s commandments will go to heaven

I Cor 14:37 “If any man think himself to be a prophet, or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things that I write unto you are the commandments of the Lord”

* Keeping Jesus’ commandments includes keeping all of the NT, not just the red letters

Illustration of friend at job who told a dirty joke, and when I called him on it, he said “God knows my heart”

Matt 15:17-19 “Do not ye yet understand, that whatsoever entereth in at the mouth goeth into the belly, and is cast out into the draught? But those things which proceed out of the mouth come forth from the heart; and they defile the man. For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies:”

* If we don’t practice God’s word, that proves our heart is in the wrong place

I John 2:3-5 “And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments. He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him.”

* If we claim to love God, but don’t practice His law, we are a liar

James 2:10 “For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all.”

* We need to obey all of God’s word, not just most of it

I John 3:22 “And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight.”

* If you are not living in obedience to God, then don’t expect Him to answer your prayers

Heb 5:9 “And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him;”

* Jesus is only the source of eternal salvation to those who obey Him

II Thess 1:8 “In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ:”

* We have to know (believe in) God and obey the gospel to be saved

Matt 7:21 “Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.”

* Only those who do the will of God will go to heaven