



# **Sabbath School Lesson 4 | Oct 16-Oct 22**

## **Sabbath School Lesson Notes Outline**

### ***To Love the Lord Your God***

#### **A Who should love God?**

- ❖ God's prescriptions were meant to be passed on generation after generation, so that "you, you and your son and your grandson" would keep them (Deuteronomy 6:2).
- ❖ God wants us to keep them too, so "that it may be well with you" (Dt. 6:3).
- ❖ This is a personal command that each person must fulfil. I must love MY God with all MY heart, with all MY soul, and with all MY strength (Dt. 6:5).

#### **B Both loving and fearing God?**

- ❖ God asks us to fear Him even before asking us to love Him. What does fearing God mean?
  - Being afraid of Him since we deserve His punishment because we have sinned (Deuteronomy. 9:19; Psalm 119:120).
  - Admiring Him and respecting His authority, power, justice, and rectitude (Exodus 14:31; Psalm 47:2; 66:5).
- ❖ In Ephesians 2:1-10, Paul explained how fearing God leads us to love Him by His grace:
  - Although we deserve to be punished for our sins, God forgives us and gives us life (v. 1-5).
  - He transforms us by His power, and makes us suitable for loving and serving Him (v. 6-10).
- ❖ We love and fear God at the same time for everything He has done for us "in Christ Jesus" (v. 7).

#### **C Why should we love God?**

- ❖ God had rescued Israel from slavery and had been loving them long before He ordered them to love Him (Deuteronomy 6:5), even before they became a nation.
- ❖ Our greatest motivation to love God is that He loved us first, "and given Himself for us" (Ephesians 5:2), even before we existed.

#### **D How can we show our love for God?**

- ❖ What do the following verses have in common? Deuteronomy 5:10; 7:9; 10:12; 11:1; 19:9.
- ❖ Loving God is indissolubly linked to obeying Him. When we love God and understand what He has done for us, we express our love for Him by keeping His commandments because it pleases Him (John 14:15).

#### **E How should we love God?**

- ❖ Jesus summarized the commandments by quoting the *Shemá*. Love is the key to obey God's commandments (Mark 12:29-30).
- ❖ This is a special kind of love. This love for God comes by knowing Him intimately and having a close relationship with Him. Our whole existence is imbued with this love: our heart, soul, mind, and body.
- ❖ In the End Time, our loyalty to God will be challenged (Revelation 12:17; 13:15; 14:1, 4-5). Those who love God will remain obedient to Him, even when threatened with death.