

Loving God with All Your Mind

Mark 1:16-20, 14:50

- I. "Jesus...saw Simon and Andrew casting a net...for they were fishermen," Mark 1:16.
- II. "Come follow me," Mark 1:17.
- III. "At once they left their nets and followed Him," Mark 1:18.
- IV. How could grown, responsible men abandon everything and follow Jesus?
 - A. They felt attracted to His Spirit.
 - B. The Holy Spirit in Jesus touched their human spirit and drew them to Him.
 - C. They loved Jesus with all their heart; an emotional attachment bound them to Him.
- V. "Everyone deserted Him and fled," Mark 14:50.
 - A. What happened to their heart love?
 1. Mind fears through heart love overboard!
 2. Nothing is incorrect about heart love; it's merely incomplete.
 - B. So, Jesus commanded us to love Him with all our minds as well as with all our hearts, Mark 12:30.
- VI. Love God with all your mind.
 - A. Accept the limitations of heart love.
 1. Apostles' heart love was very real; it began their relationship with Jesus, Matthew 9:9.
 2. But heart love by itself never sustains a love relationship, Mark 14:50.
 3. Heart love without mind love sets up inner unwinnable struggles, Mark 14:38; Mark 4:16-17; Galatians 5:17.
 4. That's why Jesus commanded us to love Him with all that we are, Mark 12:30.
 - B. Add mind love to heart love.
 1. Peter discovered the secret to unswerving love for Jesus, 2 Peter 1:5 & 10.
 2. Gospels show apostles who neglected God's Word.
 3. Acts shows apostles saturated with the Word.
 4. God's Word does for our mind what His Spirit does for our heart—turns it toward him, Romans 12:2; Luke 24:32, 45.
 5. Mind love holds us steady when feelings fail to love the Lord, Ecclesiastes 4:9-12.
- VII. Loving God with everything you are keeps your love for Him "red hot." Acts 5:40-41.

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