

**THE ROYAL LAW
Part Six**

Text: Mark 12:28-31

- Verse 31, the second great commandment.
 - “The second” = implied, greatest.
 - “Love” = _____ love.
 - “Like” = alike, _____, on the same plane as the first, having the same authority, dignity, power.
 - “Neighbor” = your fellow human being, _____ person with whom you come into contact.
- III. THE _____ OF OUR LOVE (VS. 31A).**
 - Two ways in which the second commandment is “like” the first and inseparable from it:
 - A. The second commandment is the _____ of the first.**
 - We can love others properly only if we love _____ first and reciprocate His love (1 John 4:19, 10-11).
 - John 13:34: “as I have loved you” means we are to _____ God’s love.
 - Romans 5:5: “shed abroad” = poured forth liberally and without reserve.
 - The only reason we can show love to God and others is because He’s first put His love in our _____.
 - We should love people _____, unreservedly, practically, unchangingly, unhesitatingly, and impartially.
 - Application: If you’re not loving your neighbor as you should, the problem isn’t with your neighbor, it’s with _____ and your love for God.
 - If you really understand how much God loves you and has done for you, you will _____ to love others, even those hard to love (Matt. 5:44).
 - B. The second commandment is the _____ of the first (Rom. 3:8-10).**
 - Keeping the second commandment makes our more intangible love for God visible and _____ by demonstrating its reality to others.
 - Rom. 3:8-10:
 - Vs. 8, Love is a _____ we owe to others:
 - Because God _____ it.
 - Because it’s part of your debt of love to God.
 - Vs. 9, The second commandment of the Royal Law:
 - Is a _____ of the second table of the Law, about loving people.

- Includes all those commandments from the _____ table of the Law as well.
- Vs. 10, If you’re keeping the second, you must also be keeping the first (Gal. 5:14).
- Application: If you truly love God, you will be loving people as yourself, not just verbally but _____ (Jam. 2:15-16, 1 Jn. 3:16-18).
- IV. THE _____ OF GOD’S COMMAND TO LOVE (VS. 31B).**
 - Nothing is more _____ or more imperative than God’s Royal Law of love.
 - Application: If your driving principle for life doesn’t naturally fit under the headings of loving God and your neighbor, you have a _____ problem.
 - 1 Cor. 13:1-3: Without love, even the best priorities and actions are hollow and _____.

CONCLUSION

- Two Christmas challenges:
 - 1. Examine your _____ this Christmas season.**
 - How much of your Christmas _____ and celebration will be built around you, making yourself happy, getting what you want; and how much will be derived from loving God and others as yourself and bringing joy to them?
 - 2. Evaluate the _____ of the love you say you have.**
 - If you’re thankful for love gift of _____, show that same love to someone else.