

Gezerañ Shavañ

- Matthew 22:29-40; Deut 6:5; Lev 19:18

INTRODUCTION

At times Jesus left out words in order to condense his meaning and to make a stronger point.

DISCUSSION

What is the best way to love your neighbor?

EXPLANATION

What is NOT loving your neighbor?

What is a half-hearted attempt to love your neighbor?

What type of neighbor do you see yourself never loving?

APPLICATION

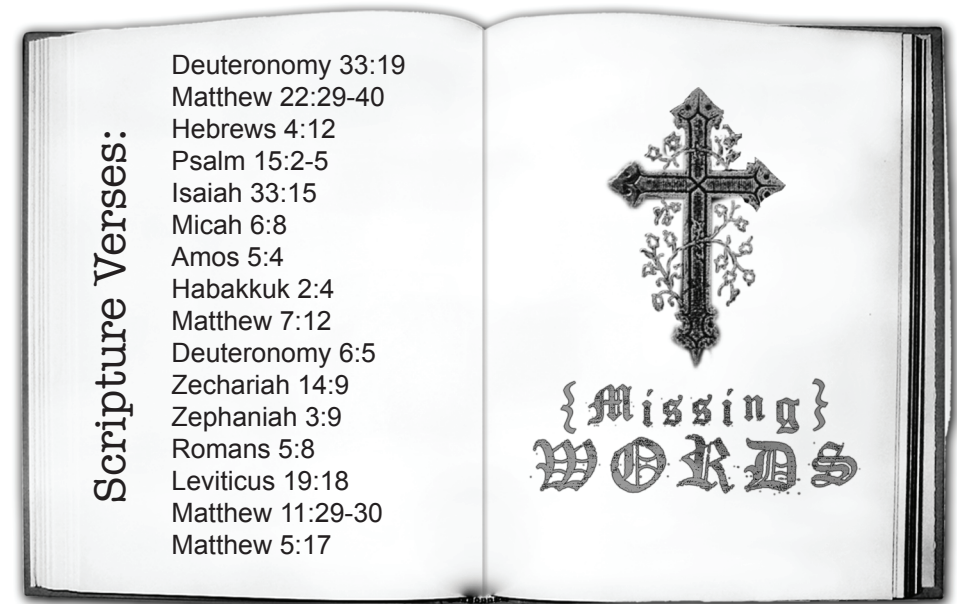
Where are you not loving Jesus by looking down on those around you?

Where are you not loving Jesus by judging those around you?

Where are you not loving Jesus by ignoring those around you?

Where are you not loving Jesus by disrespecting those around you?

How can you better love God by putting your words into action for the forward progress of the gospel?



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WEEK 4 Notes



Gezerah Shavah

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Deuteronomy 33:19 *“They will summon peoples to the mountain and there offer sacrifices of righteousness; they will feast on the abundance of the seas, on the treasures hidden in the sand.”*

At times Jesus left out words in order to condense his meaning and to make a stronger point. In Matthew 22 Jesus has just finished talking about a wedding banquet that the religious elite were missing because they saw themselves as more important than God’s work in the world. He chastises them with some very strong words that silence much of His opposition. The religious leaders regroup and come at Him again trying to get Him to mess up in His answer so they can turn the people against him.

“Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?”

Jesus grew up in Israel, in an orthodox region called Galilee. Jewish people believed that at a specific moment in human history GOD had spoken directly to their ancestors. This happened soon after they were freed from slavery and traveling in the wilderness of what is now Israel. While they were camped at a mountain, their leader, Moses, went up and received words from God. God spoke AND gave a copy of what He said to Moses.

They came to believe that the first five books of scripture (Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy) were a copy of that—they called this TORAH. When you hear the word “Law” it can be the whole Old Testament, God’s Commands, or just the Torah.

Throughout Jewish history people have tried to condense the commands

- David reduced them to 11 in **Psalms 15:2-5**
- Isaiah 6 **Isa 33:15**
- Micah to 3 **Mic 6:8**
- Amos to 2 **Amos 5:4**
- Habakkuk to 1 **Hab 2:4**

Matt 22:37-40 Jesus replied: “ ‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”

He Condensed them to two.

Hermeneutics - study of interpretation or the practice of interpretation especially in dealing with the Scriptures.

Homiletics: Takes hermeneutics and places it together into an understandable sermon, message...

Gezerah Shavah. Similar laws, similar verdicts... a verbal analogy is formed from one verse to another by means of finding the same words in both verses

- ‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ is from Deut 6:5
- ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ is from Lev 19:18

What Jesus does with Gezerah Shavah is state that loving your God will be born out in how you love your neighbor.

Jesus had earlier in Matthew said **Matt 5:17** *“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them...”* He says, “I didn’t come to do away with the words of God; I came to show people what it looks like when the Torah is lived perfectly.

“I’M HERE TO PUT FLESH ON THE WORDS.” THAT IS EXACTLY WHAT HE DOES.

