



Which is Most Important?

Mark 12, 28-34

Diversity is wonderful!



















While diversity often enriches our lives,
it sometimes endangers our lives.

In reference to GOD, diversity/plurality is **crazy**, **wrong**, and **impossible**.

OPTIONS

a) NO GOD

b) ONE GOD

c) MULTIPLE GODS

God MADE (created!) us AND everything that is not us.

From every single part of his creation,
God expects a **positive** response.

We know this because:

- ✓ Scripture **tells** us
- ✓ Scripture describes all negative responders as God's **enemies**.

God EXPECTS you to love him!

AND WHY?

1. **MEANING**. A **connection** based on fear, gratitude, symbioses, etc. is simply **association** rather than **relationship**.

2. **MYSTERY.** *The core of your
existence is a being of love!

If God has you **without** your **love**, he does not have YOU at all. If God has your love, he has **all of you** [heart, soul, mind strength]

3. **MIRACLE** This one reality (love!) inherently **desires** and **seeks** to meet ALL of God's expectations.

But then... God is so ABOVE and
BEYOND... HIGH and HOLY...
I cannot shoulder his load or put jelly on
his toast. So how can I actually
express love for him?

“Which one?” received an
answer of “These **two!**”

Mk. 12:31 – “no commandment [singular] greater than these” [plural]

Mt. 22:39 – “the second is LIKE it” [the first]
(like = “not different from”)

Mt. 22:40 – “everything (law/prophecy) hangs on these two”

Beyond remarkable, this answer
is **sobering** and **challenging**.

Keep in mind...

- My neighbor [no matter...] is God's **image**
(James 3:19)
- My neighbor [no matter...] I cannot **hate**
them and **love** God simultaneously.
(1 John 4:20-21)

The practical way to IMPLEMENT loving God into human life is to have concern for my neighbor that is no different than concern for myself.

There is no greater way to live! There
is no greater vision/purpose for the
coming year!