

When Love is Bad

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Even though Jesus taught that love is the greatest commandment (Matthew 22:36-40), we are also warned that there are certain types of love that are unprofitable and evil. The following are examples of love that we should not have:

Love of money - *"For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil: which some reaching after have been led astray from the faith, and have pierced themselves through with many sorrows"* (1 Timothy 6:10 ASV).

Love of the world - *"Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him"* (1 John 2:15).

Love of prestige - *"It is not good to eat much honey: so for men to search their own glory is not glory"* (Proverbs 25:27); *"For whosoever exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted"* (Luke 14:11).

Love of idols - *"Thou shalt fear the Lord thy God, and serve him, and shalt swear by his name. Ye shall not go after other gods, of the gods of the people which are round about you"* (Deuteronomy 6:13, 14).

Excessive love of self - *"For men shall be lovers of their own selves..."* (2 Timothy 3:2); *"And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again"* (2 Corinthians 5:15); *"...in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others"* (Philippians 2:3, 4).

Love of strife - *"As coals are to burning coals, and wood to fire; so is a contentious man to kindle strife"* (Proverbs 26:21); *"But if ye have bitter envying and strife in your hearts, glory not, and lie not against the truth. This wisdom descendeth not from above, but is earthly, sensual, devilish. For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work"* (James 3:14-16).

Love of sin - *"That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness"* (2 Thessalonians 2:12); *"Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them"* (Romans 1:32).