**What is love? Do you have love?**

When you say you love the Lord, what does that mean? To the Lord what does it mean when someone says they love him? How does he see this? To him what counts as someone who loves him? How do you define Love? Are we using our own definition of Love or thee biblical definition of love when we say we love the Lord? Is love a new thing that came in the New Testament?

What does the scripture say on this?

**1 John 5:2–3**

**By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and keep His commandments.  
For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome.**

* If you do not love God, then you do not love the children of God.
* To God, loving him means keeping commandments.
* The definition of love to God is Action, it is obeying his Word.

**2 John 1:6**

**This is love, that we walk according to His commandments. This is the commandment, that as you have heard from the beginning, you should walk in it.**

* Love is following the commandments of God.
* We get another definition for love and it is the same as the first one and it is to obey the commands of God.
* The command from the beginning was to always walk in love, the command was given to the people of Israel from the beginning through Moses.
* Walking in love is walking in his commands from this verse.
* How do I know that this was the case even from the times of Moses? How do I know this beginning?
* The verses below testify to this:

**Deuteronomy 7:9**

**Therefore know that the Lord your God, He is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and mercy for a thousand generations with those who love Him and keep His commandments.**

* This verse says those who love and keep his commands.

**Deuteronomy 11:1**

**Therefore you shall love the Lord your God, and keep His charge, His statutes, His judgments, and His commandments always.**

* This verse says Love the Lord Your God.

**Deuteronomy 11:13**

**And it shall be that if you earnestly obey My commandments which I command you today, to love the Lord your God and serve Him with all your heart and with all your soul,**

* This verse also says Love the Lord your God. Obey his commandments.

**Deuteronomy 11:22**

**For if you carefully keep all these commandments which I command you to do—to love the Lord your God, to walk in all His ways, and to hold fast to Him—**

* This verse says if you obey his commands to Love the Lord your God.

**Deuteronomy 30:16**

**In that I command you today to love the Lord your God, to walk in His ways, and to keep His commandments, His statutes, and His judgments, that you may live and multiply; and the Lord your God will bless you in the land which you go to possess.**

* God commanded them to love him, to obey his commands.

Note how none of the verses say we are saved by obedience? The message from the beginning was to always Yehovah our God. It was to Love him with all our hearts and minds, it was to obey his commands, that is how we love him. To love God means to obey his commands biblically, without taking people’s feelings and opinions but scripture. The commands of God are the Torah, the instructions given to Moses by God Himself. Those who do not obey the commands of God, they do not love God and do not the children of God, no matter what nice words they can say. This was not a new concept for them, it is something they had heard from the beginning.

**Matthew 22:35–40**

**Then one of them, a lawyer, asked Him a question, testing Him, and saying,  
“Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?”  
Jesus said to him, “‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.’  
This is the first and great commandment.  
And the second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’  
On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.”**

* What Jesus said here was not a new thing to them nor was it a new thing in general.
* It is something they had heard before.
* The verses below testify to his

**Deuteronomy 6:4–5**

**Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one!  
You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.**

**Deuteronomy 10:12**

**And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you, but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all His ways and to love Him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul,**

**Deuteronomy 30:6**

**And the Lord your God will circumcise your heart and the heart of your descendants, to love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, that you may live.**

The Lord always wanted his people to love from the beginning, that was always the command, it was not a new thing.