

MATHEW 22:37 HEART

Jesus replied: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.”

Mathew 22:37

The *seat* of man’s affection and will (devotion). The heart attaches and focuses our will and devotion. The heart causes us to give either good things or bad things. The heart causes us to devote ourselves to either good or bad. Therefore, Christ says we are to love God “with all our heart.” We are to focus our heart, our affection, and our will (devotion) upon God. We are to love God supremely.

Mat 6:21 “For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

Mat 12:34-35 “You brood of vipers, how can you who are evil say anything good? For out of the overflow of the heart the mouth speaks. The good man brings good things out of the good stored up in him, and the evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in him.” (see *Mat. 15:18-19*) □

MATHEW 22:37 SOUL (PSUCHE)

Jesus replied: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.”

Mathew 22:37

The seat of man’s breath and life or consciousness. The soul is the life of a man, the consciousness, the breath, the essence, the being of a man. The soul is the *animal life* of a man. The soul is the breath and consciousness that distinguishes man and other animals from vegetation.

The world of vegetation lives and man and animals live, but there is a difference in their living. Man and animals are *breathing* and *conscious* beings. The essence of their being is breath and consciousness. They are living souls. This is clearly pointed out in the Hebrew language of Gen. 1:20: “Let the waters teem with ‘*living souls*’ [nephesh].” The “living souls” that God created were different from the vegetation He had just created. The “living souls” were creatures (fish) that breathed and possessed consciousness.

Christ said we are to love God “with all our soul,” that is, with all our life, our breath, our consciousness. We are to love God with all the breath and consciousness, all the life and awareness, we have. □

MATHEW 22:37 MIND

Jesus replied: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.”

Mathew 22:37

The seat of reasoning and understanding. God has given intellectual powers to man. Man thinks, reasons and understands. Christ says that our minds and thoughts are to be centred upon God. We are to love God “with all our mind.”

Rom 12:2 *Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is – his good, pleasing and perfect will.*

Eph 4:24 *And to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.*

Phil 4:8 *Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable – if anything is excellent or praiseworthy – think about such things.*

Col 3:10 *And have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator.*

2 Cor 10:5 *We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ. □*