



GROWING IN YOUR LOVE FOR JESUS

PART 6

Sermon Overview

The greatest commandment is to love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' Loving God with our memory sums up the other three ways of loving God.

PART SIX

Throughout Scripture God calls us to remember Him and His blessings, and expresses disappointment when His people fail to do so. Throughout the Old Testament God's people continuously fail to remember God—resulting in God sending them into captivity.

God reminds His people to remember Him because memories of God's past redeeming grace generates hope for the future, and deepens our love for Him in the present. The greatest commandment is to love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' Loving God with our memory sums up the other three ways of loving God.

Psalm 42 says:

¹ As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, O God.

² My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When can I go and meet with God?

³ My tears have been my food day and night, while men say to me all day long, "Where is your God?"

⁴ These things I remember as I pour out my soul: how I used to go with the multitude, leading the procession to the house of God, with shouts of joy and thanksgiving among the festive throng.

⁵ Why are you downcast, O my soul? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and

⁶ my God. My soul is downcast within me; therefore I will remember you from the land of the Jordan, the heights of Hermon—from Mount Mizar.

⁷ Deep calls to deep in the roar of your waterfalls; all your waves

and breakers have swept over me.

⁸ By day the Lord directs his love, at night his song is with me- a prayer to the God of my life.

⁹ I say to God my Rock, “Why have you forgotten me? Why must I go about mourning, oppressed by the enemy?”

¹⁰ My bones suffer mortal agony as my foes taunt me, saying to me all day long, “Where is your God?”

¹¹ Why are you downcast, O my soul? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God.

PSALM 42

This Psalm illustrates how not remembering God’s grace and mercy can lead to discouragement and depression. It likewise illustrates how only the memory of God’s past faithfulness can pull us up to future hope.

FORGETFULNESS BRINGS DEFEAT

In Revelation 2:4-5, Jesus rebukes the church in Ephesus that they have forgotten their first love, and calls them to remember the height that they have fallen from. When we cool in our love for Jesus, remembering the reason why is the first step to rekindling the love.

REMEMBERING BRINGS DELIVERANCE

The Bible never convicts us of something without showing the permanent way for the conviction to be healed and relieved. Our past memory is linked to our future hope. Remember God and His past blessings, grow in your love for Jesus, and renew your hope for the present and future.