

# **BA21. Loving God & Yeshua.**

*We are to love the Lord Our God & Messiah Yeshua.*

BA21a: *We are to love the Lord our God.*

BA21b: *We are to love Messiah Yeshua.*

This precept is derived from His Word (blessed is He):

## **Key New Testament Scriptures**

### Matthew 10:37

*Whoever loves his father or mother more than he loves me is not worthy of me; anyone who loves his son or daughter more than he loves me is not worthy of me.*

### Matthew 22:37-38

*He told him, 'You are to love ADONAI your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.' This is the greatest and most important mitzvah.*

### John 14:15

*If you love me, you will keep my commands;*

### John 14:21-23

*"Whoever has my commands and keeps them is the one who loves me, and the one who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and reveal myself to him." Y'hudah (not the one from K'riot) said to him, "What has happened, Lord, that you are about to reveal yourself to us and not to the world?" Yeshua answered him, "If someone loves me, he will keep my word; and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him."*

### John 21:15-17

*After breakfast, Yeshua said to Shim'on Kefa, "Shim'on Bar-Yochanan, do you love me more than these?" He replied, "Yes, Lord, you know I'm your friend." He said to him, "Feed my lambs." A second time he said to him, "Shim'on Bar-Yochanan, do you love me?" He replied, "Yes, Lord, you know I'm your friend." He said to him, "Shepherd my sheep." The third time he said to him, "Shim'on Bar-Yochanan, are you my friend?" Shim'on was hurt that he questioned him a third time: "Are you my friend?" So he replied, "Lord, you know everything! You know I'm your friend!" Yeshua said to him, "Feed my sheep!"*

## **Additional New Testament Scriptures**

Mark 12:30-31

Luke 10:25-28

1 Corinthians 2:9, 8:3, 14:1

2 Corinthians 6:6

Galatians 5:22-23

Ephesians 1:4, 3:16-17, 5:1-2

Colossians 3:14

1 Thessalonians 3:6, 5:8

2 Timothy 1:13

1 John 3:17-18, 1Jn 4:19-21, 5:1-3

Revelation 2:4, 19

### **Related New Testament Mitzvot**

GB34 Doing Everything in Love

### **Supportive Tanakh Scriptures**

Exodus 20:5-6

*You are not to bow down to them or serve them; for I, ADONAI your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sins of the parents to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, but displaying grace to the thousandth generation of those who love me and obey my mitzvot.*

Deuteronomy 5:9-10

*.. you are not to bow down to them or serve them; for I, ADONAI your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sins of the parents, also the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, but displaying grace to the thousandth generation of those who love me and obey my mitzvot.*

Deuteronomy 6:5-9

*.. and you are to love ADONAI your God with all your heart, all your being and all your resources. These words, which I am ordering you today, are to be on your heart; and you are to teach them carefully to your children. You are to talk about them when you sit at home, when you are traveling on the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them on your hand as a sign, put them at the front of a headband around your forehead, and write them on the door-frames of your house and on your gates.*

Deuteronomy 7:9

*From this you can know that ADONAI your God is indeed God, the faithful God, who keeps his covenant and extends grace to those who love him and observe his mitzvot, to a thousand generations.*

Deuteronomy 10:12

*So now, Isra'el, all that ADONAI your God asks from you is to fear ADONAI your God, follow all his ways, love him and serve ADONAI your God with all your heart and all your being;*

Deuteronomy 11:1

*Therefore, you are to love ADONAI your God and always obey his commission, regulations, rulings and mitzvot.*

### Deuteronomy 11:13

*So if you listen carefully to my mitzvot which I am giving you today, to love ADONAI your God and serve him with all your heart and all your being;*

### Deuteronomy 11:22-23

*For if you will take care to obey all these mitzvot I am giving you, to do them, to love ADONAI your God, to follow all his ways and to cling to him, then ADONAI will expel all these nations ahead of you; and you will dispossess nations bigger and stronger than you are.*

### Deuteronomy 13:4(3)-5(4)

*.. you are not to listen to what that prophet or dreamer says. For ADONAI your God is testing you, in order to find out whether you really do love ADONAI your God with all your heart and being. You are to follow ADONAI your God, fear him, obey his mitzvot, listen to what he says, serve him and cling to him;*

### Deuteronomy 30:6

*Then ADONAI your God will circumcise your hearts and the hearts of your children, so that you will love ADONAI your God with all your heart and all your being, and thus you will live.*

### Deuteronomy 30:16

*.. in that I am ordering you today to love ADONAI your God, to follow his ways, and to obey his mitzvot, regulations and rulings; for if you do, you will live and increase your numbers; and ADONAI your God will bless you in the land you are entering in order to take possession of it*

### Comment

With Yeshua having now returned to Heaven, loving God the Father and Yeshua (also the Holy Spirit) are essentially the same. All three are persons of God and spirit beings, and a question often raised is how we can love a spirit being. As in the case of Mitzvah DA24 (Loving Our Brother & Neighbor), the love we are commanded for God and Yeshua in the Greek New Testament is ἀγάπησῃ (“agape”) and it is *אהבה* (“v’ahavta,”) for God in the Tanakh. This kind of love does not imply emotion or feeling, but rather sacrificial responsibility. In the case of our brother and neighbor, that responsibility is to do what is in their best interest, but in the case of God and Yeshua, it is to be obedient. Love and obedience are connected throughout the Scriptures, and never clearer than Yeshua’s words in [John 14:15](#): “If you love me, you will keep my commands.” That notwithstanding, there is a relational component of loving God that must never be forgotten; it is having love for our Heavenly Father as we are his children.

### Related Mitzvot in Volumes 1 & 2

G04 Loving God.