

TWELVE EVIDENCES THAT YOU HAVE LOST YOUR FIRST LOVE

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Author Unknown

Revelation 2:1-7 *Unto the angel of the church of Ephesus write; These things saith he that holdeth the seven stars in his right hand, who walketh in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks; I know thy works, and thy labour, and thy patience, and how thou canst not bear them which are evil: and thou hast tried them which say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars: And hast borne, and hast patience, and for my name's sake hast laboured, and hast not fainted. **Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love.** Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent. But this thou hast, that thou hatest the deeds of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate. He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God.*

- 1. When your delight in the Lord is no longer as great as your delight in someone else.**
Mark 12:30 "And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart..."
- 2. When your soul does not long for times of rich fellowship in God's word or in prayer.**
Mark 12:30 "And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy ... soul..."
- 3. When your thoughts during leisure moments do not reflect upon the Lord.**
Mark 12:30 "And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy ... mind..."
Psalms 10:4 The wicked, through the pride of his countenance, will not seek after God: God is not in all his thoughts.
- 4. When you claim to be "only human" and give in to those things that displease the Lord.**
Mark 12:30 "And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy ... strength..."
- 5. When you don't willingly and cheerfully give to the work of God or to the needs of others.**

1 John 3:17 *But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?*

6. **When you stop treating your Christian brothers and sisters as you would treat Jesus.**

Matthew 25:40 *And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.*

John 13:34 *A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.*

7. **When you view the commands of Jesus as restrictions to your happiness rather than expressions of His love.**

John 14:21 *He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father; and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him.*

8. **When you inwardly strive for the acclaim of this world rather than the approval of the Lord.**

1 John 2:15 *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.*

John 15:19 *If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you.*

9. **When you fail to make Christ and His words known because of fear.**

Matthew 10:28 *And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.*

John 15:20 *Remember the word that I said unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord. If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you; if they have kept my saying, they will keep yours also.*

10. **When you refuse to give up an activity which you know is offending a weaker brother.**

Romans 14:13, 15 *Let us not therefore judge one another any more: but judge this rather, that no man put a stumblingblock or an occasion to fall in his brother's way.*

But if thy brother be grieved with thy meat, now walkest thou not charitably. Destroy not him with thy meat, for whom Christ died.

11. **When you become complacent to sinful conditions around you.**

Matthew 24:12 *And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold.*

12. **When you are unable to forgive and forget another for offending you.**

1 John 4:20-21 *If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can*

he love God whom he hath not seen? And this commandment have we from him, That he who loveth God love his brother also.

Psalm 119:165 *Great peace have they which love thy law: and nothing shall offend them.*