

The Days Of The King The Virtue Of Love

2 Samuel 7:12-16 (ESV)

When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son. When he commits iniquity, I will discipline him with the rod of men, with the stripes of the sons of men, but my steadfast love will not depart from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away from before you. And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever.

What is love?

A profoundly tender, passionate affection for another person. A feeling of warm personal attachment or deep affection as for a parent, child or friend.

– dictionary.com

If love is primarily a feeling than love cannot be a virtue because virtue is demonstrated by action regardless of feelings.

The feeling of love is only legitimate inasmuch as it drives the prioritization and pursuit of certain people, places or things.

Our greatest problem is not that we do not know how to love or that we love too little, but that we love the wrong things.

Psalms 4:2 (NKJV)

How long, O you sons of men, will you turn my glory to shame? How long will you love worthlessness and seek falsehood? Selah

The Christian faith is not about telling you how to live; it is about showing you who to love.

1 John 4:7-9 (ESV)

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him.

1 John 4:19 (ESV)

We love because he first loved us.

What loves did God's love produce in David's life?

A love for the house of God

Psalm 26:8 (ESV)

O LORD, I love the habitation of your house and the place where your glory dwells.

A love for salvation of God

Psalm 70:4 (ESV)

May all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you! May those who love your salvation say evermore, "God is great!"

A love for justice of God

Psalm 99:4 (ESV)

The King in his might loves justice. You have established equity; you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.

A love for the word of God

Psalm 119:97 (ESV)

Oh how I love your law! It is my meditation all the day.

We only grow in love as we grow in knowing that we are loved.

Psalm 116:1-9 (ESV)

I love the LORD, because he has heard my voice and my pleas for mercy. Because he inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live. The snares of

death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me; I suffered distress and anguish. Then I called on the name of the LORD: "O LORD, I pray, deliver my soul!" Gracious is the LORD, and righteous; our God is merciful. The LORD preserves the simple; when I was brought low, he saved me. Return, O my soul, to your rest; for the LORD has dealt bountifully with you. For you have delivered my soul from death, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling; I will walk before the LORD in the land of the living.