



# Unique Hook For The Law & The Prophets

**"Master, which is the great commandment in the law?" (Matthew 22:36).**

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Finding a common ground between two or more disparate entities is an enormous achievement that facilitates progress and eliminated duplication of efforts.

**"But when the Pharisees had heard that he had put the Sadducees to silence, they were gathered together. 35 Then one of them, which was a lawyer, asked him a question, tempting him, and saying, 36 Master, which is the great commandment in the law? 37 Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. 38 This is the first and great commandment. 39 And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. 40 On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets"** (Matthew 22:34-40).

- 1) Following the defeat of the Sadducees, the Pharisees picked up the baton, to continue their attack on Jesus. Satan is persistent, therefore, we must not lose our guard. Satan, seems to have endless number of proxies that he can use in an attempt to get to Jesus. That is more the reason that we need to constantly watch and pray, lest we fall into temptation.
- 2) On this occasion, the proxy they used was a lawyer, a professional person with a reputation to reckon with. This should serve as a challenge for all Christians to surrender their professional expertise to the service of Jesus.
- 3) They started their temptation with a question on which is the great commandment. They thought that Jesus would make a mistake that would generate time wasting dispute or give them opportunity to accuse Him of ignorance or misleading people. However, they were wrong, as Jesus's answer demonstrated greater wisdom and understanding than they had or expected. The Psalmist flagged this up in Psalm 119:99 that "I have more understanding than all my teachers: for thy testimonies are my meditation". Meditation on, and obedience to the word of God will give you

**"On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets" (Matthew 22:40).**

greater wisdom than the professionals and your teachers. Close association with Jesus, turned ordinary men to experts as confirmed in Acts 4:13 "Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus".

- 4) To their credit, their question highlight the importance of priorities. In contemporary times, many people waste enormous times on things that are not important, and by the time the finish them, there is no time left to do the most important things in their life. If only we can focus on the priorities, the less important things would fall into their natural place and we will achieve more in life. Remember the 80:20 rule, that 80% of achievements in life are accomplished by concentrating doing 20% of high priority tasks. You are not called to do everything in life but to identify and accomplish the priorities. Paul set a great example on this in Philippians 3:1-15, by pressing on towards the mark for the prize of the high calling of God upon his life, and so must we, if we are to finish our course with joy (2 Timothy 4:7)
- 5) Jesus gave them the two greatest commandments, both based on love, that satisfied both the law and the prophets. Truly, love is the fulfilment of the law (Romans 13:8-9). If we focus on loving God and fellow human beings, we will fulfil all the righteous demands of God.

This message teaches us the importance of maintaining a close walk with God in order to succeed in life and overcome the devil, irrespective of his tactics and strategies.