***Overcoming Spiritual Dullness and Passivity (Revelation 2-3)***

**The Call to Love God with All of Our Heart**

Consider Jesus’ correction to three churches—Ephesus, Sardis, Laodicea—for having drifted into spiritual dullness and passivity and His counsel on how to overcome it. Jesus corrected these three churches for neglecting His primary message to love Him with all their heart.

The reason this message and these three corrections and points of counsel are so important is because these churches represent the common way today that believers and whole ministries drift into spiritual dullness, not even being aware of it. And one of the things that Jesus calls us to is to “Be watchful! Be alert!” Pay attention to the slow drifting away from a deep heart engagement with the Lord.

These churches represent the common ways that believers drift into spiritual dullness without being aware of it or carefully watching for it. Socrates said, “The unexamined life is not worth living.” We are to apply His counsel here to our personal life and to those to whom we minister.

Jesus’ declaration in Matthew 22:37-38 is one of the most significant statements in Scripture. The Spirit’s first priority and emphasis for believers is that they grow in wholehearted love for God. This lifestyle has the greatest impact on God’s heart and our heart, and it is the greatest calling.

“‘You shall love the Lord…’ This is the first and great commandment.”   
Matthew 22:37-38

One of Jesus’ most significant statements in the whole scripture is in Matthew 22:37-39—we all know it—where He says, “Love the Lord your God with all of your heart, your soul, your strength and your mind.” The thing that is really interesting is not just that He calls us to love Him, but that He called this the “first and great” commandment.

In essence, the reason that it is so important, verse 38, is because He is saying, “I want you, Body of Christ throughout history, to know that this is always the first priority of the Spirit in your life.” Like, people pray and say, “What is the Lord saying to me?”

I say, “He might be saying these three or four things, but I know what He is saying to you first.” Hear what the Spirit of God is saying and do it with expediency!