



Oct. 25, 2020 Mt. 22: 34-46 Deut. 34:1-12

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Link to [Beck](#) (paywall) other [Beck](#)

Stone, Naomi. [The Light of Love Burning Within Us](#)

Rolheiser, Fr. Ron. [A Higher Court of Things](#)

[Monastery Sunday Homilies](#)

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### ENTERING THE SCENE:

Our overburdened lawyer with his bulging briefcase and armloads of books is a stand in for all of us who also want to know which of the commandments is the greatest. One hopes that he originally came with an honest question, but as so often happens we bow to the opinion of others we think important. Many times a loving response is our first response to a need or question, but we cave in to “common sense” answers and override our best instincts. Law helps us hide behind ‘reason’ when love is really the answer. Jesus points to where the truth resides; it is in the heart. We are invited to answer whose son the Messiah is as well as the Pharisees.

**Mt. 22:34-46** 34 Hearing that Jesus had **silenced** the **Sadducees**, the **Pharisees** got **together**. 35 One of them, an expert in the **law**, tested him with this **question**: 36 **Teacher**, which is the **greatest commandment** in the **Law**?" 37 Jesus replied: "'**Love** the Lord your God with all your **heart** and with all your **soul** and with all your **mind**.' 38 This is the first and **greatest commandment**. 39 And the second is like it: '**Love** your **neighbor** as **yourself**.' 40 All the **Law** and the **Prophets** hang on these two commandments."

*41 While the **Pharisees** were gathered **together**, Jesus asked them, 42 What do you think about the **Christ**? Whose **son** is he "The son of **David**," they replied. 43 He said to them, "How is it then that **David**, speaking by the **Spirit**, calls him '**Lord**'? For he says, 44 The **Lord** said to my **Lord**: "Sit at my **right hand** until I put your enemies under your feet." 45 If then **David** calls him '**Lord**,' how can he be his **son**?" 46 No one could say a word in reply, and from that day on no one **dared** to ask him any more **questions**.*

**DISCUSSION QUESTION:** Jesus teaches that the greatest commandment is to love with all you have and are. How does this help you when you have to make a decision?

**PRAYER:** Before you came into our world Lord, I could only guess what God is like from my experiences. Who would have thought that you would reveal yourself as Love incarnate? Once in a while I get a glimpse of the kind of love you revealed, but it is such a fleeting thing. It is only when I am loved by someone that I connect with this fundamental reality again. Help me as I stumble from glimpse to glimpse towards you. Amen.

