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***Gal.5:14 KJV, For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.***

Although this statement is completely Biblical and accurate, consider these thoughts. Some have advocated a

misperception of the command of love, based on this verse. Paul is NOT saying to the Galatians or to you and me that all Kingdom purpose is fulfilled by loving your neighbor. He is stating that **all the Law** is fulfilled in one thought: what Matthew's gospel describes as the "2nd commandment".

The "law" represents the outer-court — which is addressed in the second command. This does not supersede the personal, inner-court relationship. It does not displace the 1st commandment: thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all of your heart. While the first commandment is 'vertical' in its focus, Gal.5:14 is of 'horizontal' intent and context. Without diminishing vs.14, in God's eyes, there remains a clear distinction and priority between our vertical responsibilities and our horizontal responsibilities— between "ministry TO God and ministry FOR God."

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The MSG translation renders Gal.5:14 "For everything we know about God's Word is summed up in a single sentence: Love others as you love yourself". **I respectfully but vigorously disagree with this translation!** This is not speaking of God's Word and heart in-total. It is speaking of **the law**. God makes a clear separation and distinction in Mt.22:37-39, *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 neighbor as thyself.* KJV'

Weymouth translated Gal 5:14, "For the entire **Law** has been obeyed when you have kept the single precept, which says, you are to love your fellow man equally with yourself," again denoting fulfillment of the law—specifically Lev.19:18.'

In truth, fulfilling the commandment to love others (fulfilling the law) is impossible without a pursuit of the first commandment—the **commandment of worship**. Amen!'

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*Jim*

worshippers.net



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