

Love Grown Cold

"And because wickedness is multiplied, most men's love will grow cold." Matthew 24:12

Jesus and His disciples were in Jerusalem a few days prior to His death and the disciples asked Him about events surrounding the end of the world. In this verse He told them that one of the indicators that a person's love for God has grown cold was his involvement in wickedness.

A couple of days later, when Jesus had the Last Supper with the disciples, He said, **"If ye love me, keep my commandments;"**¹ and again, **"He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me;"**² and again, **"If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him;"**³ and again, **"If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love;"**⁴ and again, **"Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you."**⁵

In Revelation, Jesus writes to the Laodicean church, **"I know your works: you are neither cold nor hot. Would that you were cold or hot! So, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spew you out of My mouth."**⁶ Many who profess a passion for Christ later grow tired of doing what He wants, insisting on doing what they want, and their initial fervor for Christ begins to cool. **These, Jesus said, He rejects.**

You can know that your "love for God has grown cold" when you begin to compromise your convictions, or when you ignore certain commandments because you feel out of place seeking to obey them. For example, a teacher at **an evangelical Christian college was told by the administration that she could not attend chapel** because she insisted that God wanted her to cover her head when she prayed;⁷ evidently, they did not want the other ladies who did not cover their heads to feel awkward or guilty. Considering certain New Testament commands cultural is a sure indication that your love for the Savior has grown cold.

¹ John 14:15 ² Verse 21 ³ Verse 23 ⁴ John 15:10 ⁵ Verse 14 ⁶ Revelation 3:15-16

⁷ Cf. I Corinthians 11:1-16