

GOSPEL PEARLS

Jesus cannot be misled

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Stefano Bimbi But when the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together. And one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?" And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets." (Matthew 22: 34-40)

The Pharisees try to trick Jesus when asking Him what the most important commandment is. Jesus responds by pointing out that the source of the commandments is God and therefore it is Him who above all else must be honoured and loved. From the observance of this commandment, all others follow, including those which relate to our neighbors, whom we too often fear more as rivals than as a brother.