

*“You shall love the Lord your God
with all your heart and with all
your soul and with all your mind.”*

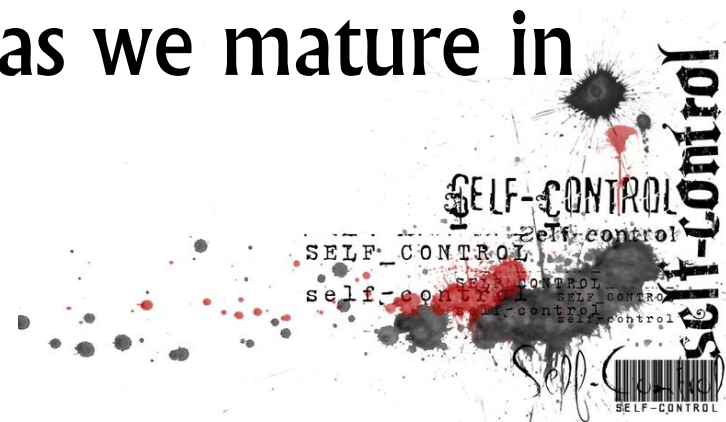
(Matthew 22:37, ESV)

**THEME FOR
2009**

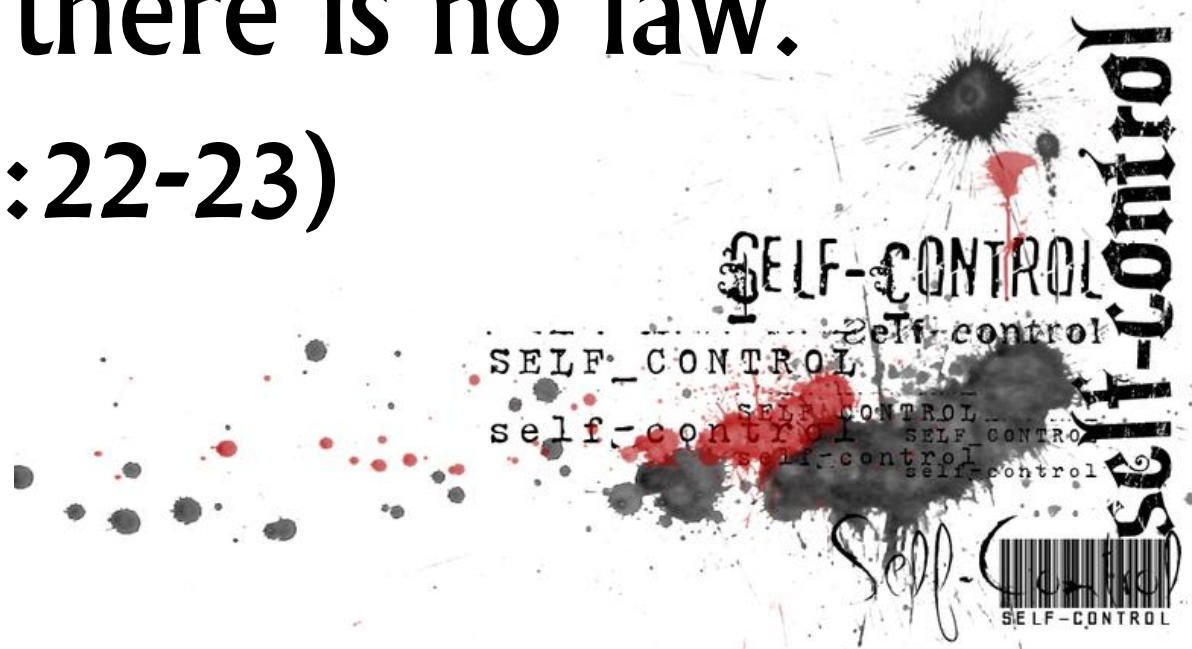
**Matthew
22:37ff**

Self-Control

- Self-Control / “temperance” (kjb).
- “the one who masters his desires, passions and impulses” (Thayer).
- Self-control is commended, commanded and encouraged in the Old and New Testaments.
- It is part of “faith in Christ” (Acts 24:24ff)
- We are to add it to our lives as we mature in Christ (2 Peter 1:6ff)



But the fruit of the Spirit is love,
joy, peace, patience, kindness,
goodness, faithfulness,
gentleness, **self-control**; against
such things there is no law.
(Galatians 5:22-23)





Controlled Lives

I. We need to have a controlled life.

- (1 Corinthians 6:9-11)
 - Because they formerly lived in such sins, those who now serve Jesus must use special control to avoid their practice any longer.
- (Galatians 5:26-35)
 - We must serve one of two masters: flesh or Spirit
- (Ephesians 4:22-32)
 - The uncontrolled life is called "the old man," and it holds no promise of life.





Controlled Speech

II. We need to have controlled speech.

- (Ephesians 4:29)
 - Our speech is not to be “corrupt” (unwholesome).
- (Colossians 4:3-6)
 - Control our speech so that we speak the gospel.
- (James 3:2-12)
 - Our life would be much better if we can learn to control our tongues
 - Complaining, gossiping, put downs, foul language, lying.





Controlled Thoughts

III. We need to have controlled thoughts.

- (Proverbs 4:23)

- “Keep your heart with all diligence,
For out of it spring the issues of life”.

- (Matthew 15:18-20)

- (James 1:14-15)

- All sin begins with “thoughts”:



Conclusion

- Remember our theme (Matt. 22:37)
- Remember who we belong to.
- Because we belong to Him, let us control our **hearts**, our **speech** and our **lives** for His service and to His glory!

