



# Love That's "All In"

Are you "All In" for God? Look at this definition of being "All In" when it comes to poker.

*The all-in moment in poker is a thrilling win-or-lose-everything crisis of dramatic clarity: you've wagered all you've got, giving your fate over to the cards, and you can't go back out again. Going all in is often a spectacularly bad idea. But in life, it seems, it is all good—the only way to live boldly is to be all in on many different things at once.<sup>a</sup>*

In the book of Deuteronomy, God commands us to go all in for Him. Look at what God says.

**Deuteronomy 6:5** You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. (ESV)

God calls us to love Him with all our heart, soul and might. To understand what that means, let's look at what is meant by your heart, soul, and might.

The heart is the center of the person. In other words, the core of our being. This is where our emotions come from. It is where our passions spring from.

The soul is your inner being. The Hebrew word for soul is also used for breath. Think about how your breath is basically your life. It goes deep within you.

The might, or your strength, is just that. It is your ability, your actions, all that you do. It is the active part of loving God.

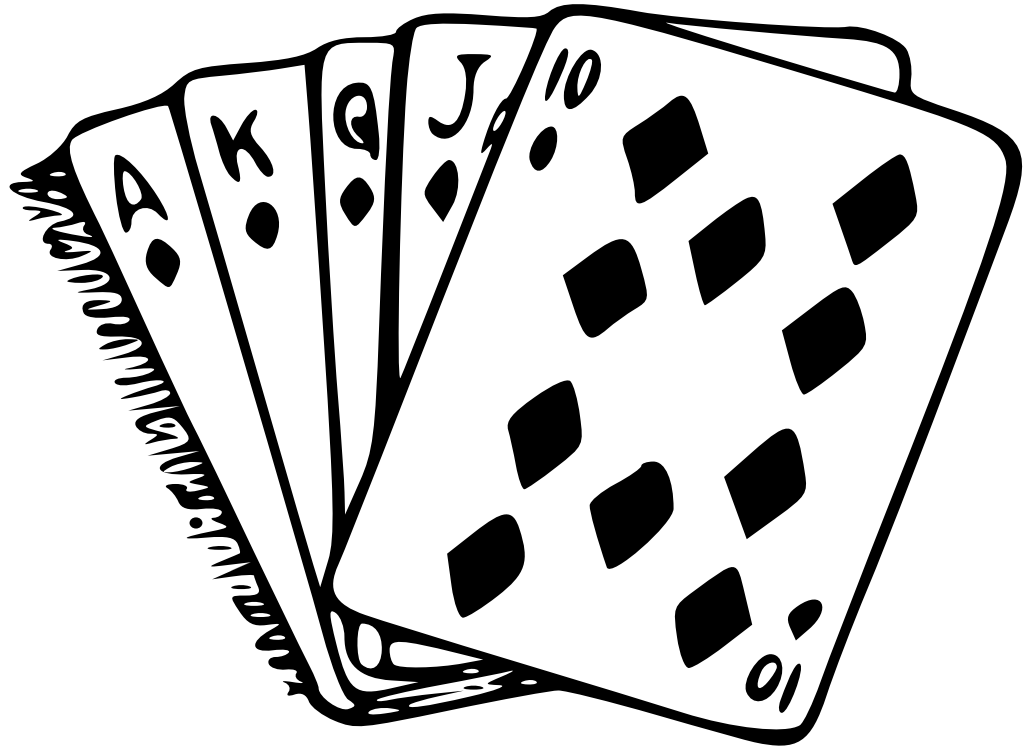
So, to be "all in" with God is to love God with every part of you. One biblical scholar put it this way.

*Human love for God is therefore far from being expressed merely in sheer legalism ...; on the contrary, it engages the whole person, with all his/her powers; it must come from one's whole heart and must lead to a cleaving to God that is living and dynamic.<sup>b</sup>*

If you want to have a vibrant Christian life, let me encourage you to go “all in” with God.

In Him and for His glory,

*Patrick A. Lee*



<sup>a</sup> Ian Crouch, Going All In on “All In”, September 7, 2015, The New Yorker at <https://www.newyorker.com/culture/cultural-comment/going-all-in-on-all-in>, accessed on 2/22/2022.

<sup>b</sup> New International Dictionary of Old Testament Theology and Exegesis: Volume 1. 286. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, © 1997.