

LOVE

- 1 John 4:9-10
 - Known from the actions it prompts
- Romans 5:8
 - Not complacency or affection, springing from any excellency in the object of love
- 1 John 4:8, 16
 - God is love

LOVE FROM CHRISTIANS

- Romans 15:2
- Romans 13:8-10
- Gal 6:10
- Toward men
- Toward brethren
- Not an impulse from the feelings
- Does not always run with natural inclination
- Not spent only on one for whom you have a spontaneous or natural liking
- Seeks welfare of ALL
- Works no ill toward any

LOVE

- Matthew 22:35-40
 - The first and greatest commandment
- 1 Timothy 1:5
 - The end of the commandment
- John 13:34-35
 - The means by which others will know we are the Lord's
- 1 Corinthians 13
 - Love personified

CORINTH

- Divisions
- Immorality
- Brother going to law against one another
- Fornication
- Marriage questions
- Problems related to eating meats and conscience
- Problems related to insubordinate women
- Problems related to the Lord's Supper
- Problems related to spiritual gifts

LOVE SUFFERS LONG

- Long-tempered
- Opposite of short-tempered or quick tempered
- Temper is a long time coming about
- Able to suffer mistreatment and injustice
- “to be patient in bearing the offenses and injuries of others; to be mild and slow in avenging; slow to anger; slow to punish” (Thayer, p.387)
- Ephesians 4:1-3
- 2 Timothy 4:2
- Luke 23:34

LOVE IS KIND

- Simple kindness
- Not biting back, as in conflict
- “to show one’s self mild; to be kind, use kindness” (Thayer, p.671)
- Mistreatment does not give the excuse to be unkind
 - Rom 12:20-21
- Kind words & kind deeds
- Galatians 5:22
- Matthew 18:34-35
 - Forgiveness an expression of kindness

LOVE IS KIND

- Ephesians 4:32
 - Associated with tenderheartedness and forgiving spirit
- Romans 12:10
- Colossians 3:12-13
- If love God, then be kind to His people!

LOVE DOES NOT ENVY

- Corinth – envy over spiritual gifts
- Jealousy wants what another has
- Envy wishes the other did not have it
- Positively: “to burn with zeal”
 - 1 Corinthians 12:31
 - 1 Corinthians 14:1
- Negatively in chapter 13: “to be heated or to boil”
 - 1 Corinthians 3:1-4

LOVE DOES NOT ENVY

- Cain slew Abel
- Joseph's brothers sold him into slavery
- Elder brother rejected his penitent brother
- Jesus was delivered up to be crucified
- Proverbs 14:30
- Instead:
 - Romans 12:15
 - 1 Corinthians 12:26

LOVE DOES NOT PARADE ITSELF, IS NOT PUFFED UP

- Parade, vaunt – to boast oneself; brag
- Puffed up – inflated view of self; inflated concept of one's importance
 - “to inflate, blow up, blow out, to cause to swell up; to puff up, to make proud; to be puffed up, to bear one's self loftily, be proud” (Thayer, p.660)
 - The attitude from which bragging comes
- Causes strife, jealousy, division with others
- Proverbs 26:12
- Philippians 2:1-8

CORINTH - PUFFED UP

- 1 Corinthians 4:6
 - On behalf of one against another
 - Change: humble self and submit to the word of God
- 1 Corinthians 4:7-8; 18-19
 - Against the authority of the apostle Paul
 - Change: acknowledge and submit to the apostles' doctrine
- 1 Corinthians 5:2
 - Regarding a brother living in sin
 - Grace? Don't want to be legalistic and "Pharasaical"?
 - Change: mourn and take action

CORINTH - PUFFED UP

- 1 Corinthians 8:1
 - Knowledge regarding a liberty, but absent love
 - Change: consider (love) your brother
- 1 Corinthians 12:21
 - “I have no need of you”
 - Change: I need you
- Solution?
 - Not timidity nor weakness
 - Love is humble
 - Matthew 5:3
 - Poor in spirit

LOVE DOES NOT BEHAVE RUDELY

- Literally, does not behave indecently
 - Unseemly (KJV); unbecomingly (NASB)
- An unbecoming manner
- Disgraceful, dishonorable, indecent
- Instead:
 - Love is concerned with how it affects others
 - It behaves in a considerate and respectful way
 - Love is concerned with proper decorum
- In speech and actions
- Ephesians 4:29
- Acts 15

LOVE DOES NOT SEEK ITS OWN

- Does not insist upon its rights
- Does not stress personal rights, self-centeredness, self-indulgence
- “It would be the key to almost all the problems which surround us today, if men would think less of their rights and more of their duties” (William Barclay)
- Literally, does not behave indecently
- Instead
 - 1 Corinthians 10:24
 - 1 Corinthians 9:19-23

LOVE IS NOT PROVOKED

- To rouse or provoke to anger, sudden outburst
- Anger that arises too readily
- Instead:
 - Not readily upset or irritated
 - Not bitter
 - Not resentful
 - Does not fly off in a rage
- James 1:19-20
- Ephesians 4:26

LOVE THINKS NO EVIL

- Does not keep account of evil
- Keeping a ledger
- Instead:
 - Matthew 18:15-17; 21-22
 - 2 Timothy 4:16
- Consider
 - 2 Corinthians 5:19

LOVE DOES NOT REJOICE IN INIQUITY

- Iniquity – lawlessness
- No joy, happiness witnessing someone fall into sin or be injured by the consequences of sin
- Does not say: “I’m glad he got what he deserved”
- Instead:
 - Matthew 5:4
 - 1 Corinthians 5:2
 - Psalm 119:104, 128
 - Ephesians 5:8-12; 15
 - Jude 23
 - I John 2:15-17
 - Romans 3:8

LOVE REJOICES IN THE TRUTH

- Corinth needed this to receive this letter
- 3 John 4
- Matthew 13:44
- Rejoices in hearing it preached, in believing it, in obeying it, and in spreading it
- Contrast:
 - 1 Thessalonians 2:13
 - to
 - 2 Thessalonians 2:9-12

LOVE BEARS ALL THINGS

- Bears injustices and difficulties
- James 1:2-4
- 2 Corinthians 12:10
- Bears others' burdens
- Galatians 6:2

LOVE BELIEVES ALL THINGS

- Believes the best about others unless proven otherwise
- Takes the kindest and best view of others and their circumstances
- Opposite of
 - Evil surmising – supposing that something is true without having evidence to confirm it
 - Making the worst of things
 - Painting things in the darkest colors

LOVE HOPES ALL THINGS

- Is not pessimistic nor doubting
- Instead
 - Optimistic and looks for improvement
 - Forward-looking
- Philippians 3:12-14

LOVE ENDURES ALL THINGS

- Perseveres (endures) through injustice, hardship, sufferings, persecution
- Luke 17:4
- 2 Timothy 2:10
- Example of Christ
 - Hebrews 12:1-4

LOVE NEVER FAILS

Permanence of love

John 14:15

1 John 4:7-8

LOVE

- Suffers long
- Is kind
- Does not envy
- Does not parade itself
- Is not puffed up
- Does not behave rudely
- Does not seek its own
- Is not provoked

LOVE

- Thinks no evil
- Does not rejoice in iniquity
- Rejoices in the truth
- Bears all things
- Believes all things
- Hopes all things
- Endures all things