

A sunset scene with a large, bright sun partially obscured by a dark, semi-transparent horizontal band. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and blue. Below the band, the sun is lower, and the sky is more orange and red. In the foreground, there are silhouettes of trees and a rocky shore. The water is dark and reflects the sky. The overall mood is serene and contemplative.

RENEW. REBUILD. REKINDLE.

1 Pet. 1:22

“Rekindling a life of love.”

1 Pet. 1:22 Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, *see that ye* love one another with a pure heart fervently:





Review

Our theme this year is...

RENEW. REBUILD. REKINDLE.

Before the COVID challenge, we had been considering...

“Rekindling a Lively Hope”



I. THE QUESTION OF SALVATION, 1:5-8

A. We Have An Expectant Hope

B. We Have An Experiential Faith, 1:5-7

C. We Have An Expressive Love, 1:8-9

II. THE QUESTION OF SCRIPTURE, 1:9-12

A. As to its Message, 1:9

B. As to its Mystery, 1:10-11

C. As to its Majesty, 1:12

III. THE QUESTION OF SANCTIFICATION, 1:13-16

A. The Character of God, 1:13-17

B. The Cross of Christ, 1:18-21

1. The Price of Redemption, 1:18-19

2. The Plan of Redemption, 1:20-21

a. As to the Past Purpose of God, 1:20a

b. As to the Present Period of Grace, 1:20b-21

(1) What We Believe, 1:20b-21a

(2) Why We Believe, 1:21b

This epistle is packed full of encouragement for believers. During the last several weeks we have seen the subjects of **hope** and **holiness** in this chapter, and this morning, we see how the chapter gives direction for believers regarding spiritual **harmony** by...

“Rekindling a life of love.”

1 Pet. 2:1 Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings,

2 **As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:**

3 If so be ye have tasted that the Lord *is* gracious.

- Peter was moved by the Holy Spirit to turn his attention from the believer's duty to God, to the believer's duty to his or her Christian brethren.
- The passage gives the implications of living joyfully during trials and suffering.
- As the passage continues, the author returned to what he set out to do in verse 13, namely, to spell out the implications of Christian faith and hope.

1 Pet. 1:13 Wherefore **gird up the loins of your mind**, be **sober**, and **hope** to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ;

- The Scriptural admonitions for believers are predicated on a relationship with God.

C. The Control of the Spirit, 1:22-25

1. A New Pattern of Life, 1:22

a. A New Life Experienced, 1:22a-b

(1) Cleansing, 1:22a “Seeing ye have purified your souls...”

- The observation of “cleansing” is a qualifying or causation for what follows.
- The purification to which Peter referred occurred at conversion as a result of believing the gospel.
- This cleansing made it possible for us to “love” other Christians “fervently.”
- The verb, *purified*, is a perfect participle which indicates a past action that produces present results.

Original Word: ἀγνίζω

Part of Speech: Verb – perf. Part.

Transliteration: hagnizó

Definition: to purify, cleanse from defilement

Usage: I cleanse, purify, either ceremonially, actually, or morally. <https://biblehub.com/greek/48.htm>

- The verse continues by explaining the process of cleansing...

(2) Commitment, 1:22b “...in obeying the truth through the Spirit...”

- The “obeying the truth” is an **active response**, a submission to what we have “heard.”

Original Word: ὑπακοή

Transliteration: hupakoé

Definition: obedience

Usage: obedience, submissiveness, compliance.

obedience – literally, "submission to what is heard"

<https://biblehub.com/greek/5218.htm>

Jas. 1:22 But **be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.**

23 For **if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer,** he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass:

24 For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was.

25 But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth *therein*, **he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.**

- The “obeying the truth” is a spiritual phenomenon – “...through the Spirit...”

Jn. 4:24 **God is a Spirit:** and they that worship him **must worship *him* in spirit and in truth.**

Titus 3:5 **Not by works of righteousness which we have done,** but according to his mercy he saved us, **by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;**

- A spiritual birth is a necessity to qualification for heaven:

Jn. 3:5 Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, **Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.**

6 That which is **born of the flesh is flesh**; and that which is **born of the Spirit is spirit.**

7 Marvel not that I said unto thee, **Ye must be born again.**

- In order to live a life of obedience to the Lord Jesus Christ and His Word, we must be sensitive to the influence of the Holy Spirit:

Zech. 4:6 Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, This *is* the word of the LORD unto Zerubbabel, saying, **Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts.**

- The Apostle Paul waxed eloquent on Mars Hill, but changed tactics when he went to Corinth.

1 Cor. 2:1 And I, brethren, **when I came to you**, came not with excellency of speech or of wisdom, declaring unto you the testimony of God.

2 For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified.

3 And I was with you in weakness, and in fear, and in much trembling.

4 And **my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power:**

5 **That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.**

- Believers are to remember and implement the spiritual enlightenment needed to serve Christ.

1 Cor. 2:9 But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which **God hath prepared for them that love him.**

10 But **God hath revealed *them* unto us by his Spirit:** for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.

11 For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so **the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God.**

12 **Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.**

13 Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but **which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.**

14 But **the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God:** for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know *them*, because they are spiritually discerned.

15 But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man.

b. A New Love Expressed, 1:22c-e

(1) The Integrity of that Love, 1:22c-d

(a) Unfeigned, 1:22c “...unto unfeigned love of the brethren...”

- Peter urged his readers to do everything out of "sincere (unhypocritical) love" for "the brethren"— "from the heart".
- We do not need to love one another as though we were brethren. We can love one another **because we really are brethren.**

Original Word: ἀνυπόκριτος

Transliteration: anupokritos

Definition: unhypocritical, unfeigned

Usage: unfeigned, without hypocrisy, sincere.

- **properly, *not a phony* ("put on"), describing sincere behavior free from hidden agendas (selfish motives)**
- **literally, "*without hypocrisy*" (unfeigned).**

<https://biblehub.com/greek/505.htm>

- The “love” a believer has at salvation for other brethren is one of genuine brotherly love.

Original Word: φιλαδελφία

Transliteration: philadelphia

Usage: brotherly love, love of Christian brethren.

<https://biblehub.com/greek/5360.htm>

- If believers have a genuine, unhypocritical love for each other, then why are they commanded to “...love one another with a pure heart...”?
- Believers, growing in grace, are commanded to take “love” to a higher level.

(b) Unfouled, 1:22d “...*see that ye love one another with a pure heart...*”

- Believers are to move from brotherly love to love that is like God’s love.

Original Word: ἀγαπάω

Part of Speech: Verb – **Aorist imper.**

Transliteration: agapaó

Usage: I love, wish well to, take pleasure in, long for; denotes the love of reason, esteem.

<https://biblehub.com/greek/25.htm>

- A “pure heart” is uncontaminated by the world, flesh, and devil.

Original Word: καθαρός

Transliteration: katharos

Usage: clean, pure, unstained, either literally or ceremonially or spiritually; guiltless, innocent, upright.

spiritually *clean* because *purged* (purified by God), i.e. free from the contaminating (soiling) influences of *sin*. <https://biblehub.com/greek/2513.htm>

Jn. 13:34 A new commandment I give unto you, That ye **love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.**

35 By this shall all *men* know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.

Jn. 15:12 This is my commandment, That ye **love one another, as I have loved you. ...**

17 These things I command you, that ye love one another.

Rom. 13:8; 1 Thess. 4:9; 1 Jn. 3:11, 23; 1 Jn. 4:7, 11-12; 2 Jn. 1:5; Gal. 5:13; 1 Thess. 3:12

(2) The Intensity of that Love, 1:22e “...fervently:”

- A higher standard of love is one that is self-sacrificing for another, reflecting love that is like God's.
- Believers are to grow from “brotherly love” to a “God-like” love, full of intensity!
- Believers with “half-hearted” love hurt themselves and others.

2 Tim. 4:10 **For Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world**, and is departed unto Thessalonica; Crescens to Galatia, Titus unto Dalmatia.

- Consider the example of the Lord:

Eph. 5:25 “...**Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;**” = fervent love

Original Word: ἔκτενῶς

Transliteration: ektenós

Definition: intently, fervently (a verb which means to "stretch out the hand," thus it means to be stretched out—earnest, resolute, tense.

<https://www.blueletterbible.org/lexicon/g1619/kjv/tr/0-1/>)

Usage: earnestly, strenuously, fervently.

- Fervent love, enabled and empowered by the Spirit of God, is God's plan for His children.

Conclusion

Gal. 5:22 But **the fruit of the Spirit is love**, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,
23 Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

24 And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts.

25 **If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.**