



LOVE SO AMAZING

2022 THEME

1 Cor. 12:31 But covet earnestly the best gifts: and **yet shew I unto you a more excellent way.**

1 Cor. 13:4 Charity suffereth long, *and* is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up,

5 Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil;

6 Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth;

7 Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.

This morning, we continue looking at *Love So Amazing* in what is commonly called the “Love Chapter,” I Cor. 13. We began with examining the usage of “charity” instead of “love” as the translation of the Greek work *agape*.

❖ The basic observation regarding the two words is that the translation of *agape* to *love* is focused upon the attribute of God while translating *agape* to *charity* focuses upon a believers interaction with others.

2 Thess. 1:3 We are bound to thank God always for you, brethren, as it is meet, because that your faith groweth exceedingly, and **the charity of every one of you all toward each other aboundeth;**

1 Pet. 4:8 And above all things **have fervent charity among yourselves: for charity shall cover the multitude of sins.**

❖ As we continue the “Love So Amazing” chapter, **remember that the focus of the word *charity* emphasizes God-like love of a believer toward others.**

❖ The chapter begins by expressing great things that are nullified without charity.

I. THE EXCLUSION OF CHARITY, 13:1-3

A. Skill Without Charity Is Commotion, 13:1

B. Spirituality Without Charity Is Conceitedness, 13:2

C. Sacrifice Without Charity Is Contemptible, 13:3

❖ In essence, the first three verses are expressing **THE VALUE OF LOVE.**

II. THE EXPLANATION OF CHARITY, 13:4-8

❖ The next few verses are expressing **THE VIRTUE OF LOVE**. Last week we observed *The Patience of Charity*, expressing humility.

A. The Patience of Charity, 13:4

1 Cor. 13:4 Charity suffereth long, *and* is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up,

1 Cor. 13:4 “*The Humble Perspective*” → **Humility**

This morning, we continue to observe the positive explanation of charity and how it is manifested toward others.

B. The Peace of Charity, 13:5

1 Cor. 13:5 Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil;

1 Cor. 13:5 “*The Unselfish Perspective*” →

Harmlessness

“Charity doth not behave itself unseemly,”

Original Word: ἀσχημονέω

Transliteration: aschémonéō

Definition: to act unbecomingly

Usage: I act improperly, am unseemly, behave unbecomingly (or even dishonorably); perhaps: I consider (something) unseemly.

asxēmonéō – to act unseemly (literally, "improperly"); (figuratively) to lack proper form and hence thought of as unseemly (indecent, unbecoming).

<https://biblehub.com/greek/807.htm>

- ❖ “Being obnoxious for Jesus” just doesn’t fit this verse!
- ❖ Interrupting services at a heretical church or cult is “unseemly.”
- ❖ Charity is courteous and polite, considerate of another’s feelings.
- ❖ Charity does not make excuses for being rude or caustic – “I’m a redhead, Irish, etc.”

“Charity seeketh not her own,”

Original Word: ζητέω

Transliteration: zéteó

Definition: to seek; **Usage:** I seek, search for, desire, require, demand.

zētéō – properly, to seek by *inquiring*; to investigate to reach a *binding (terminal)* resolution; to search, "getting to the bottom of a matter."

<https://biblehub.com/greek/2212.htm>

- ❖ A believer is NOT constantly promoting self and seeking his/her “rights.”
- ❖ Charity is not self-centered, but more concerned about promoting others than promoting self.

“Charity is not easily provoked,”

Original Word: παροξύνω

Transliteration: paroχunó

Definition: to sharpen, to stimulate, to provoke; **Usage:** I arouse anger, provoke, irritate.

paroksýnō – properly, cut close alongside, i.e. **to incite** ("jab") someone and stimulate their feelings (emotions); "become emotionally provoked (upset, *roused to anger*)" (A-S), as personally "getting to someone"; (figuratively) "*to provoke feelings, spurring* someone to action" (Souter).

<https://biblehub.com/greek/3947.htm>

❖ A believer in fellowship with Christ does NOT get easily provoked.

Psa. 119:165 Great peace have they which love thy law: and **nothing shall offend them.**

❖ Charity does stifle the overly sensitive person who is wearing their feelings on their shirt sleeves.

“Charity thinketh no evil;”

Original Word: λογίζομαι

Transliteration: logizomai

Definition: to reckon, to consider

Usage: I reckon, count, charge with; reason, decide, conclude; think, suppose.

logízomai (the root of the English terms "*logic*, *logical*") – properly, *compute*, "take into account"; *reckon* (come to a "bottom-line"), i.e. *reason* to a *logical conclusion*(decision).

<https://biblehub.com/greek/3049.htm>

- ❖ “Thinketh no evil” can apply toward others, or personally toward self, regarding circumstances.
- ❖ Charity does NOT keep a record of offenses.
- ❖ Delete the file on those who have offended you and forget about retaliation.

Original Word: κακός

Transliteration: kakos

Definition: bad, evil; **Usage:** bad, evil, in the widest sense.

kakós (an adjective, and the root of *kakía*, "inner malice") – properly, inwardly *foul, rotten (poisoned)*; (figuratively) inner *malice* flowing out of a *morally-rotten* character (= the "rot is already in the wood").

[*kakós* is often a pronominal adjective (i.e. used as a substantive) meaning, "wickedness, inner evil."]

<https://biblehub.com/greek/2556.htm>

- ❖ Personally, a believer in fellowship with Christ does NOT ask the question, “Why did God allow this to happen to me?”
- ❖ A believer in fellowship with Christ does NOT ask the question, “Why didn’t I get to _____?”
- ❖ A believer in fellowship with Christ does NOT surmise of questionable motives of others.
- ❖ Prov. 10:12 Hatred stirreth up strifes: but **love covereth all sins.**

Summary

We began with **THE VALUE OF LOVE** and have continued observing the first couple of verses regarding **THE VIRTUE OF LOVE**:

1 Cor. 13:4 “*The Humble Perspective*” → **Humility**

1 Cor. 13:5 “*The Unselfish Perspective*” → **Harmlessness**

Charity doth not behave itself unseemly, = unassuming

Charity seeketh not her own, = unselfish

Charity is not easily provoked, = unpretentious

Charity thinketh no evil; = unpresumptuous

Conclusion

1 Pet. 4:7 But the end of all things is at hand: be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer.

8 And **above all things have fervent charity among yourselves: for charity shall cover the multitude of sins.**

9 Use hospitality **one to another without grudging.**