



# 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**

## 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**

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

### C. The Praise of Charity, 13:6

1 Cor. 13:6 Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth;

1 Cor. 13:6 *“The Discerning Truth Perspective”* →

**Honesty**

Charity rejoiceth not in iniquity, but  
Charity rejoiceth in the truth;



❖ The love depicted as *charity* in 1 Cor. 13, begins with God.

1 Jn. 4:19 We love him, **because he first loved us.**

❖ A believer who is trusting only in God, by faith, is transformed by God's love, enabling that believer to love like God loves:

1 Jn. 4:7 Beloved, let us love one another: for **love is of God**; and **every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God.**

8 He that loveth not knoweth not God; for **God is love.** ...

16 And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. **God is love**; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.

❖ The *charity* in 1 Cor. 13 is efficacious by the Holy Spirit, Gal. 5:22, as He works in and through the believer, Phil. 1:6, and 2:13, not naturally by the will of the flesh.

1 Cor. 2:14 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.

❖ The natural man glories in the tragedy of the wicked, or an enemy.

*Schadenfreude* is a combination of the German nouns *Schaden*, meaning "damage" or "harm," and *Freude*, meaning "joy." So it makes sense that ***schadenfreude* means joy over some harm or misfortune suffered by another.**

<https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/schadenfreude>

❖ On the other hand, *charity* toward others includes a personal attitude of disappointment when learning of another person's spiritual decline, injustice, or fall.

Prov. 24:17 Rejoice not when thine enemy falleth, and let not thine heart be glad when he stumbleth:

**Original Word:** χαίρω

**Transliteration:** chairó

**Definition:** **to rejoice**, be glad; **Usage:** I rejoice, am glad; also a salutation: Hail.

*xaírō* – properly, to delight in God's *grace* ("rejoice") – **literally, to experience *God's grace (favor)*, be conscious (glad) for His *grace*.**

<https://biblehub.com/greek/5463.htm>

❖ *Charity* does not find anything to celebrate that originates from a source of iniquity, or a violation of God's standard of justice or righteousness.

**Original Word:** ἀδικία

**Transliteration:** adikia

**Definition:** injustice, unrighteousness; **Usage:** injustice, unrighteousness, hurt.

*adikía* – properly, the opposite of justice; unrighteousness, as a violation of God's standards (justice) which brings divine disapproval; a count (violation) of God's justice, i.e. what is contrary to His righteous judgments (what He approves).

<https://biblehub.com/greek/93.htm>

## iniquity (n.)

c. 1300, "hostility, malevolence; a hostile action,"  
"unequalness, unevenness," figuratively  
"unfavorableness, unfairness, injustice,"

<https://www.etymonline.com/search?q=iniquity>

**INIQUITY**, *noun* [Latin iniquitas; in and oequitas, equity.]

**1.** Injustice; unrighteousness; a deviation from rectitude;  
as the *iniquity* of war; the *iniquity* of the slave trade.

**3.** A particular deviation from rectitude; a sin or crime;  
wickedness; any act of injustice.

Your iniquities have separated between you and your  
God. Isaiah 59:1-3.

**4.** Original want of holiness or depravity.

<https://webstersdictionary1828.com/Dictionary/iniquity>

- ❖ *Charity* does not rejoice in something that is a disapproval to God and His character.
- ❖ *Charity* does not condone unholy behavior.
- ❖ When a person's disobedience to God has caused heartache for self and others, be slow to question why "God" would "allow" punishment to the offender.

Prov. 11:5 The righteousness of the perfect shall direct his way: but **the wicked shall fall by his own wickedness.**

Eccl. 8:11 Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore **the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil.**

12 Though a sinner do evil an hundred times, and his *days* be prolonged, yet **surely I know that it shall be well with them that fear God, which fear before him:**

13 **But it shall not be well with the wicked,** neither shall he prolong *his days, which are* as a shadow; because he feareth not before God.

Jer. 6:15 **Were they ashamed when they had committed abomination? nay, they were not at all ashamed, neither could they blush: therefore they shall fall among them that fall:** at the time *that* I visit them they shall be cast down, saith the LORD.

Jer. 8:12 **Were they ashamed when they had committed abomination? nay, they were not at all ashamed, neither could they blush: therefore shall they fall among them that fall:** in the time of their visitation they shall be cast down, saith the LORD.

Zeph. 3:5 The just LORD *is* in the midst thereof; **he will not do iniquity:** every morning doth he bring his judgment to light, he faileth not; but **the unjust knoweth no shame.**

Prov. 14:14 **The backslider in heart shall be filled with his own ways:** and a good man *shall be satisfied* from himself.



Ezek. 36:31 Then shall ye **remember your own evil ways**, and your doings that *were* not good, and **shall lothe yourselves in your own sight for your iniquities and for your abominations.**

32 Not for your sakes do I *this*, saith the Lord GOD, be it known unto you: **be ashamed and confounded for your own ways**, O house of Israel.

❖ *Charity* does not condone sinful action, but encourages repentance:

Deut. 4:29 But if from thence thou shalt seek the LORD thy God, thou shalt find *him*, **if thou seek him with all thy heart and with all thy soul.**

- ❖ *Charity* does “rejoiceth in the truth.” Truth is charity’s focus.
- ❖ This *rejoicing* implies a key ingredient for cultivating and maintaining fellowship among believers:

**Original Word:** συγχαίρω

**Transliteration:** sugchairó

**Definition:** to rejoice with; **Usage:** I rejoice with, congratulate.

**Properly, sharing God's *grace with another person, so that both rejoice together (mutually participate in God's favor, grace)*.** <https://biblehub.com/greek/4796.htm>

❖ The object of motivation for deeper relationship among believers is TRUTH!

**Original Word:** ἀλήθεια

**Transliteration:** alétheia

**Definition:** truth; **Usage:** truth, but not merely truth as spoken; truth of idea, reality, sincerity, truth in the moral sphere, divine truth revealed to man, straightforwardness.

<https://biblehub.com/greek/225.htm>

❖ *Truth* is defined in three specific areas that promote fellowship: The Lord Jesus, the Holy Spirit, and the Word of God:

Jn. 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, **I am** the way, **the truth**, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

1 Jn. 5:6 This is he that came by water and blood, *even* Jesus Christ; not by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit that beareth witness, because **the Spirit is truth**.

Jn. 17:17 Sanctify them through thy truth: **thy word is truth**.

❖ Truth is the impetus of assurance for the believer:

Psa. 145:18 The LORD *is* nigh unto all them that call upon him, to all that **call upon him in truth**.

Jn. 15:26 But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, *even* **the Spirit of truth**, which proceedeth from the Father, **he shall testify of me**:

## Summary

❖ We began with **THE VALUE OF LOVE** and have continued observing verses regarding **THE VIRTUE OF LOVE:**

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

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

1 Cor. 13:6 “*The Discerning Truth Perspective*” → **Honesty**

Charity rejoiceth not in iniquity, but  
Charity rejoiceth in the truth;

## Conclusion

Col. 3:12 Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering;

13 Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: **even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye.**

14 And **above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness.**

15 And let **the peace of God rule in your hearts**, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.

16 Let **the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom**; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

17 And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, **do all in the name of the Lord Jesus**, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.