



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**

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.

This morning, we continue to observe the positive explanation of charity and how it is manifested toward others. Last week we closed verse 6 rejoicing “in the truth.”

- ❖ Truth is charity’s focus.
- ❖ This morning, building upon *truth*, we observe the *Power of Charity*, v. 7.

D. The Power of Charity, 13:7

1 Cor. 13:7 Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.

1 Cor. 13:7 *“The Benefit of the Doubt Perspective”*

→ **Hopefulness**

Charity beareth all things,
Charity believeth all things,
Charity hopeth all things,
Charity endureth all things.

❖ God's love, working in and through a believer, gives power to love another in an extraordinary manner that transcends natural tendencies of mankind.

1. Charity's Forbearance, 13:7a "...beareth all things..."

❖ Charity is protective, covering another.

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

Original Word: στέγω

Transliteration: stegó

Definition: to cover closely (so as to keep water out), generally to bear up under;

Usage: I cover, conceal, ward off, **bear with**, endure patiently.

stégō – properly, to place under *roof*, to *cover-over* (with a roof); (figuratively)

to *endure* because *shielded*, i.e. bearing up (forbearing) because under *the Lord's protection (covering)*. <https://biblehub.com/greek/4722.htm>

- ❖ Charity takes responsibility to care for the welfare of another.
- ❖ The best example is how the Lord keeps His children protected.

Psa. 17:8 Keep me as the apple of the eye, **hide me under the shadow of thy wings,**

Psa. 36:7 How excellent *is thy lovingkindness*, O God! therefore the children of men put their trust **under the shadow of thy wings.**

Psa 57:1 [[To the chief Musician, Altaschith, Michtam of David, **when he fled from Saul in the cave.**]] Be merciful unto me, O God, be merciful unto me: for my soul trusteth in thee: **yea, in the shadow of thy wings will I make my refuge, until these calamities be overpast.**

Psa. 63:7 Because thou hast been my help, **therefore in the shadow of thy wings will I rejoice.**

- ❖ Charity is the “umbrella” that protects when the storm is raining havoc in life.
- ❖ Protective charity is easily seen in the family.
 - The husband/father provides for and protects his wife and children.

1 Tim. 5:8 But if any provide not for his own, and **specially for those of his own house**, he hath denied the faith, and **is worse than an infidel.**

- The wife/mother supports her husband and tenaciously protects her children.
- When the “umbrella” of respect is upheld by the children, the family unit is strengthened.

2. Charity's Faith, 13:7b “...believeth all things...”

❖ Charity is not gullible but gives the benefit of the doubt, choosing a gracious trust as opposed to a cynical doubt.

Original Word: πιστεύω

Transliteration: pisteuó

Definition: **to believe**, entrust; **Usage:** I believe, **have faith in, trust in**; pass: I am entrusted with.

pisteúō (from *pístis*, "faith," derived from *peíthō*, "persuade, be persuaded") – **believe (affirm, have confidence)**; <https://biblehub.com/greek/4100.htm>

- ❖ Charity is the suppression of the suspicious.
- ❖ Instead of “jumping to conclusions,” charity allows opportunity of explanation, hoping for the best.

3. Charity's Future, 13:7c "...hopeth all things..."

❖ Hope is an expectation that is optimistic for the future.

Original Word: ἐλπίζω

Transliteration: elpizó

Definition: to expect, to hope (for); **Usage:** I hope, hope for, expect, trust.

elpízō (from *elpís*, "hope") – **to hope, actively waiting for God's fulfillment.**

<https://biblehub.com/greek/1679.htm>

- ❖ Forgiveness, as in Mt. 22 – 70 x 7, is an investment of hope for the future, of building a relationship.
- ❖ Hope is an encouraging expectation to be a tool for building others' lives.
- ❖ “Hope has a name, and His name is Jesus.”
 - 4. Charity's Fortitude, 13:7c
“...endureth all things...”
- ❖ Charity puts up with all kinds of annoying behavior.

Original Word: ὑπομένω

Transliteration: hupomenó

Definition: to stay behind, to await, endure;

Usage: (a) I remain behind, (b) I stand my ground, show endurance, (c) **I endure, bear up against, persevere.**

hypoméno – **literally, remaining under (the load), bearing up (enduring); for the believer, this uniquely happens by *God's* power.**

<https://biblehub.com/greek/5278.htm>

Heb. 12:2 Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of *our* faith; who for the joy that was set before him **endured** the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

3 For consider him that **endured** such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds. ...

7 If ye **endure** chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not?

Jas. 1:12 Blessed *is* the man that **endureth** temptation: for when he is tried, **he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.**

Jas. 5:11 Behold, we count them happy which **endure**.
Ye have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen
the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful, and
of tender mercy.

- ❖ Charity bears the load against weighty challenges that are personal, or for another.
- ❖ The believers that “endureth all things” are exhibiting a life like the Lord Jesus Christ.
- ❖ Charity, gracious loving, cultivates a lasting relationship for mates, families, and churches.

Song of Solomon 8:6 Set me as a seal upon thine heart, as a seal upon thine arm: **for love is strong as death**; jealousy *is* cruel as the grave: the coals thereof *are* coals of fire, *which hath a* most vehement flame.

7 **Many waters cannot quench love, neither can the floods drown** it: if *a* man would give all the substance of his house for love, it would utterly be contemned.

❖ Charity withstands the pressures of a broken home or heart – the key to restoration with God or another is “charity – that never faileth” (v. 8a.)

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**

1 Cor. 13:7 *"The Benefit of the Doubt Perspective"*

→ **Hopefulness**

Charity beareth all things,
Charity believeth all things,
Charity hopeth all things,
Charity endureth all things.

- ❖ All of these characteristics of charity are attributes of love and grace that are in the Lord Jesus Christ.
- ❖ Believers are to love like Him, live like Him, and be like Him.

Conclusion

LOVE LIVED OUT LOUD!

Rom. 12:9 **Let love be without dissimulation.** Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good.

10 **Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love;** in honour preferring one another;

11 Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord;

12 **Rejoicing in hope; patient** in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer;

13 Distributing to the necessity of saints; **given to hospitality.**

14 Bless them which persecute you: bless, and curse not.

15 Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep.

16 **Be of the same mind one toward another.** Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate. Be not wise in your own conceits.

17 Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men.

18 If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, **live peaceably with all men.**

19 Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but *rather* give place unto wrath: for it is written, **Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.**

20 Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head.

21 Be not overcome of evil, but **overcome evil with good.**