

1 John 3 – Let us Love One Another (Part 7)

The extraordinary love of God towards mankind, and the effects of it. (1-3)

The Command to Love

(1) Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us (given to us), that we should be called children of God (and so we are)! Therefore, the world does not know us, (and the reason is) because it did not know Him.

REVIEW: Last week we started talking about how **God's love** is characterized in 1 Cor chapter 13.

Today we'll continue our study about the characteristics of this love (agape love) starting in verse 5.

OVERVIEW of 1 Corinthians Chapter 13

I. 1 Cor 13:1-3 Paul tells us that Biblical love needs to be a priority for Christians.

II. 1 Cor 13:4-7 Paul tells us what Biblical love is.

III. 1 Cor 13:8-13 Paul tells us that Biblical love is greater than all the spiritual gifts.

===== **BIBLICAL LOVE 1 Corinthians 13:5-7** =====

In 1 Corinthians chapter 13 ... Paul describes Biblical love in terms of action words.

“... let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth.” **1 John 3:18**

5a Love does not behave rudely (it does not dishonor others or does not act unbecomingly)

DEFINE Dishonor _____

DEFINE Unbecomingly _____

Where there is love, there will be kindness and good manners. Perhaps not in the stuffy, “look at how cultured I am” way of showing manners, but in the simply way of behaving in a polite manner. This kind of love cares about others, their customs, likes, and dislikes. It respects the feelings and concerns of others even when they are different from their own. It would never act dishonorably or disgrace another person.

Prov 15:4 _____

5b Love does not seek its own (not self-seeking)

DEFINE Self-seeking _____

This kind of love puts the good of others before our own good. It places God first in our lives, above our own ambitions. This love does not insist on getting its own way. This is being like Jesus in a most basic way, being an others-centered person instead of a self-centered person. Love is never satisfied

but in the welfare, comfort, and salvation of *all*. The man is no Christian who is solicitous for his own happiness alone; and cares not how the world goes, only his own comfort.

Paul communicates the same idea of putting others first in ...

Rom 12:10 _____

Phil 2:3 _____

5c Love is not provoked (is not easily angered)

DEFINE Anger _____

Like the characteristic of patience, this kind of love does not rush toward anger when others do us wrong. This love does not hold a selfish concern for one's own rights. We all find it easy to be **provoked** or to become irritated with those who are just plain annoying. But it is a sin to be **provoked**, and it isn't love.

Did it ever bother you that God kept Moses from entering the Promised Land?

It was because Moses became **provoked** at the people of Israel (Numbers 20:2-11). Notice the frustration that Moses showed when he began to talk to the Israelites, after they (once again) complained about his leadership. God told Moses to address the rock, but he and Aaron addressed the people instead. His first words? "Listen, you rebels!" He lashed out at the people. Moses used his temper to intimidate the people. But God didn't give Moses the right to judge Israel in this way. In fact, God had told Moses that He was going to show mercy and grace to the people by providing water from the rock.

Look carefully at what Moses said after he lashed out at the Israelites and called them rebels. "Must **we** bring this water from the rock?" But God had said that **He would bring water out of the rock** once Moses **spoke to it**. Instead, Moses and Aaron seemed to be taking credit for the miracle, implying that the power to bring water from the rock would come from them and Moses's staff.

God told Moses to "speak" to the rock which would indicate that the miracle of water from the rock was from God. But instead, Moses and told Aaron to strike the rock with his rod ... God had His heart set on showing mercy to the people, but Moses was angry at the people and had his heart set on the people's sin.

Ecc 7:9 _____

5 Love thinks no evil (keeps no record of wrongs)

DEFINE evil _____

This kind of love offers forgiveness, even when offenses are repeated many times. It is a love that doesn't keep track of every wrong thing that people do and hold it against them. Love will put away the hurts of the past instead of clinging to them.

Prov 17:9 _____

CONSIDER: What did you learn about today's lesson? What made an impression on you?

RESPOND: Please take a moment to reflect on this lesson and how we can show others that God's love is in us. If you're open to sharing => **click** on the web link (on the Ladies of Grace web page).

PRAYER Dear Lord, Bless me with Your love, that I may love as You love. May I show Your love, Your comfort, Your patience, Your kindness, Your compassion, and Your caring to those I know and encounter each day. Grant me Your heart that I may help fellow souls in need. Let Your peace forge a path for me, allowing me to extend Your love to others. Bless and empower me with Spirit-fed confidence that I may live a life that brings glory and honor to You. AMEN.

<http://raynoah.com/2018/12/03/god-i-want-to-love-like-jesus-loved/>

<https://enduringword.com/bible-commentary/1-corinthians-13/>

<https://www.learnreligions.com/love-is-patient-love-is-kind-bible-verse-701342>

<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/blogs/trevin-wax/bother-god-barred-moses-promised-land/>

<https://www.xavier.edu/jesuitresource/online-resources/prayer-index/gods-love>