

## “LOVE” Letter

### The Greatest is “LOVE”

**1 Corinthians 13** is a powerful chapter of scripture for a child of God. In these verses, God is telling us that our words of prophecy, understanding and all knowledge, even faith to the moving of mountains mean nothing without love. I told you last month “Love is the Foundation”. Webster’s Dictionary gives one definition of love as “A strong tender affection, deep devotion.”

This chapter of scripture puts into prospective a “**religious**” man and what he would be lacking. For there are some who have depended on their talents and gifts rather than a good conscious towards God. God has given talents and gifts to be used in His kingdom but it is for the edifying of the church, not for our own gain or to say look at me I am important now. Yes, the body of Christ is full of gifts and talents but to often missing the Love of Christ.

God is clearly saying in His word that our gifts and talents are of no benefit if His love is not seen in us. **Verses 4-7 of the Young’s Literal Translation Bible says** *“The love is long suffering, it is kind, the love doth not envy, the love doth not vaunt itself, is not puffed up, doth not act unseemly, doth not seek its own things, is not provoked, doth not impute evil, rejoiceth not over the unrighteous, and rejoiceth with the truth; all things it beareth, all it believeth, all it hopeth, all it endureth”*

As you can see, love is an action word. Love is shown by what you do or do not do. God keeps a perfect record of our lives, that

being the case it would behoove us to do a self-check to ensure we are displaying the characteristics of a lover at all times.

***Galatians 5:22- 23 states “And the fruit of the Spirit is: Love, joy, peace, long-suffering, kindness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance; against such there is no law.”*** Having full understanding that these are the characteristics of God and are not multiple fruit but one fruit, we must govern ourselves to embody **ALL** the characteristics of the Spirit of God if we are to be pleasing to Him.

God has shown in His grace and mercy towards us all of these characteristics. You must deal with others as God has dealt with you. If God through love were not long-suffering, kind, good, and temperate, we would not have joy, peace, or have an example of meekness and faith. All of these things are needful to be one with God. If God did not have these characteristics, we would have surely been destroyed long ago. I should hear millions of Amen's all the way through cyber space right now!

We are living Epistles, read of all men. You have a responsibility to make sure they read Jesus, and Him crucified, raised from the dead, and living and reigning in your life. This is where a lost and dying world finds hope. They find it in the reading of your life. Stay strong brothers and sisters in the LOVE that Jesus has shown.

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