

1 Corinthians 13 New American Standard Bible

The Excellence of Love

If I speak with the tongues of mankind and of angels, but do not have love, I have become a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal.

² If I have *the gift of* prophecy and know all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing.

³ And if I give away all my possessions *to charity*, and if I surrender my body so that I may glory, but do not have love, it does me no good.

⁴ Love is patient, love is kind, it is not jealous; love does not brag, it is not arrogant.

⁵ It does not act disgracefully, it does not seek its own *benefit*; it is not provoked, does not keep an account of a wrong *suffered*,

⁶ it does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth;

⁷ it keeps every confidence, it believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

⁸ Love never fails; but if *there are gifts of* prophecy, they will be done away with; if *there are* tongues, they will cease; if *there is* knowledge, it will be done away with.

⁹ For we know in part and prophesy in part; ¹⁰ but when the perfect comes, the partial will be done away with.

¹¹ When I was a child, I used to speak like a child, think like a child, reason like a child; when I became a man, I did away with childish things.

¹² For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face; now I know in part, but then I will know fully, just as I also have been fully known.

¹³ But now faith, hope, *and* love remain, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

We will use five tools on our expedition that are built around five questions

What questions were provoked within you?

Did anything confuse you?

Did anything move you emotionally?

Did God instruct you to do something?

Did you gain any insight into God's character?

1. What is it to live in love and to have love live in you?
2. How does a noisy gong and a clanging cymbal make you feel?
3. The tongues of men are earthly languages and the tongues of angels are heavenly languages.
4. What is the gift of prophesy? The insight to speak God's Word and ways into a situation.

5. The ability to be able to hear God for future events and happenings.
6. New testament prophets are different to old testament prophets, the old testament's prophets roles are more in line with the new testament apostles. They bring the very word of God to His people without error.
7. Faith to move all mountains is a conviction of the truth of God's promises known.
8. If you give a sacrifice of all you have and all you are, but then not love, it is of no value to God, even if you become a martyr it is of no value to God, because God wants His will done His way, so the end does not justify the means with God.
9. What is it to live in the presence of love, it is to live in the presence of God, that means His kindness, Mercy Compassion etc.
10. Why is love not jealous?
11. Why does love draw back from arrogance?
12. What is it to act unbecomingly?
13. Why does love not seek its own welfare?
14. Why does love not share the same bed as unrighteousness?
15. Why does love express itself in truth?
16. What is it to bear under trial and temptation?
17. If the truth is not believed is it still the truth?
18. What is it to endure all things?
19. Why does love never fail?
20. The gifts of the Holy Spirit have been given to equip the Church to present the gospel and empower Christians to represent God on the earth.
21. But there is a day coming when we will need them no more! Unlike love which is eternal, it was there at the start of it all and it will be there at the end.
22. Love is coming into eternity with us with the saints and love will be welcoming us into eternity when we arrive.
23. Some have said that the gifts given by the Holy Spirit to equip the church for ministry have already been done away with, for me this is not so, we need, even as Jesus needed, the gifts of the Holy Spirit to establish the Kingdom of God.
24. 'The perfect coming' is His return to the earth. Some have taken this scripture to mean - when the bible was penned, the perfect came - but this is not what I think.
25. Paul says 'as a child I had very little understanding, but as I grew I took hold of the truth that sets men free'. To think like a child, is to think the way you used to think before the Holy Spirit started bringing revelation to your spirit, to reclaim you for God.
26. Becoming a man is to step into maturity by acting in the right way, for the right reason.
27. For a man to revert back to being a child in their thinking and emotions is foolish and denies the very progress he has made.
28. To see in a mirror dimly is to see, but to see without clarity.
29. On His return we will see all things clearly, all truth will be made known to us.
30. Do you really know yourself? God does. He knows you now and one day soon, you will be fully known by yourself when all truth is revealed.
31. Until all is revealed to us we have to use what God has given to access our eternal inheritance and we do that by faith.

32. Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Hebrews 11.
33. Hope is not wishful thinking but a confidence in God to do well and to do right.
34. Love – love eternal – is eternal love and we get the privilege of the fullness of that attribute of God made available to us right now, as soon as we receive Jesus as our saviour God gives us His love into our hearts our spirit.
35. His Spirit, that is the Holy Spirit, comes to live in our spirit, His love lives in our hearts, heaven has come to live inside of you.
36. To the degree you let this love live in you, is to the degree His love lives out of you. We will not get anymore of God's love in heaven than He has already given to us right now on earth as a repentant sinner.