

# 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 KJV

- (1) Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not **charity**, I am become *as* sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal. (2) And though I have *the gift of* prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not **charity**, I am nothing. (3) And though I bestow all my goods to feed *the poor*, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not **charity**, it profiteth me nothing.
- (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. (8) **Charity** never faileth...
- (13) And now abideth faith, hope, **charity**, these three; but the greatest of these *is* **charity**.

# CHARITY (*agapē*)

- Compared to *phileo*, agape involves the choice to esteem, regardless of mere feeling (Trench).
- Cp. [Matthew 22:37, 39—*agapao*]. Call to service! [Luke 6:31, 46] [John 3:16].
- *“Love is a matter of will and action”* [TDNT].
- *“It is not simply an emotion... it is a principle by which we deliberately live. Agape has supremely to do with the will”* [Barclay].
- Essence of Christianity. [Romans 13:8-10] [1 Peter 1:22].

# What **CHARITY** Demands...

- PATIENCE

- “*Suffereth Long*” [4]

- *makrothumeo*

- “*Beareth All Things...*” [7]

- *stego*

- “*Endureth All Things...*” [8]

- *hupomeno*

- Cf. [Matthew 14:15ff].

- [Matthew 18:21-35].

# What **CHARITY** Demands...

- KINDNESS

- *“Is Kind”* [4]

- *“To render gracious, well-disposed service to others.”*  
*“Merciful.”*

- *Chrēsteuomai*. Only time used in N.T. Root word *chrestos* is found in other places [Matthew 11:30– “easy.”]

- Applied Consideration. [Matthew 7:12]

- Unilateral Commitment! [Matthew 5:38-48]

- Cf. [Luke 23:32-43]

# What **CHARITY** Demands...

- BELIEVE THE BEST (As Long As Possible)
  - *“Believeth All Things” [7]*
  - *“Hopeth All Things” [7]*
  - [ISV] *Believes the best in all...*
  - [Moffatt] *Always eager to believe the best, always hopeful...*
  - Example of Lord... Cf. **Peter** [Luke 23:32-43]; **James & John** [Matthew 20:20-23]; **Zacchaeus** [Luke 19:1-10]; **Unnamed Scribe** [Matthew 12:28-34].

# What **CHARITY** Forbids...

- **RIVALRY**

- *“Envieth not...”* [4]

- *“Vaunteth Not Self...”* [4]

- *“Is Not Puffed Up...”* [4]

- *“Seeketh Not Own...”* [5]

- This COMPETITION defines “CARNALITY!” It is devilish and unacceptable!

- Cf. [John 13:3-17] [Philippians 2:1-11].

# What **CHARITY** Forbids...

- **ILL TEMPER**

- ***“Not Easily Provoked...” [5]***

- ***“Irritable.” “Touchy.”***

- ***“Not Behave Itself Unseemly...” [5]***

- ***“Unbecomingly.” “Shamefully.” “Disgracefully.”***

- (BBE) ***Love's ways are ever fair... it is not quickly made angry.***

- Cf. [Luke 4:16-30]

# What **CHARITY** Forbids...

- **BITTERNESS**

- ***“Thinketh No Evil...”*** [5]

- From *logizomai*.

- ***“Taketh not account of evil”*** [ASV]

- ***“Does not keep a record of wrongs”*** [Lexham]

- ***“Rejoiceth Not In Iniquity...”*** [6]

- ***“Love is never glad when others go wrong...”*** [Moffatt]

- ***“Is never glad when wrong is done...”*** [Williams]

- MALICE in action!

- Cf. [Matthew 26:57-68]

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