

FAITH, HOPE, LOVE
WHAT WE NEED TO FINISH THE RACE
A TOPICAL, DOCTRINAL STUDY
ON THE KEY CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH

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The Title Of The Message:
LOVING UNTO THE END
WHAT WE NEED IN THESE LAST DAYS

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:
Love, God, Jesus, Christianity Actions, Ministry

Introduction to the Text: **1 Corinthians 13:13**

1Corinthians 13:13
And now abide faith, hope, love, these three;
but the greatest of these *is* love.

John 15:9
“As the Father loved Me,
I also have loved you; abide in My love.

So Important is The Love of God in Us,
*that without it operating in our lives, we have no right
to call ourselves Christians.*

John 13:35
By this all will know that you are My disciples,
if you have love for one another.”

There is a great temptation to become ***unloving***.
And how we become ***unloving*** is a slippery path
toward destruction.

**If we get our eyes on to people, and things and groups...
then we are driving headfirst toward disappointment**

Love Chills When We Become Disappointed / Hurt
(it's always wrong because we fail to accept the suffering from the Lord)

Then We **Slip** and **Slide** Toward...
Self Defense

When we're unloving - we'll become self-centered
When we're unloving - we'll become self-serving
When we're unloving - we'll become self-glorifying
When we're unloving - we'll become self-satisfying

"You can be a nice person and be unloving"

Being Nice Can Serve Your Self Centeredness;
But Loving Someone Else is Costly!

Matthew 24:12

And because **lawlessness** (neglect for the law)
will abound, the **love** of many will grow cold.

John 15:9

"As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love. :10 If you keep My
commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father's
commandments and abide in His love.

"God is **Glorified**
When We **Love** and Show Love Toward One Another"

"Satan, On the Other Hand,
is **Served**, When We **Hate** One Another"

IN THIS STUDY, OUR THIRD CHARACTERISTIC,
WE'RE LOOKING AT IS **LOVE**,
AND HOW IT RELATES TO OUR **SERVICE**

FAITH, HOPE AND LOVE,
LOVING UNTO THE END

3.) Love / "Service" = **what we do when we know Jesus**

What is a Biblical Love?

It's Foundational to the Christian Faith

1John 4:8
God is love.

Jesus Said in John 8:42
If God were your Father,
ye would love me:

LOVING UNTO THE END

3a.) Love means serving Jesus Christ - *He Loves Us*

What Does It Mean To Love Jesus by Serving Him?

**LOVE IS A VERB AND BY BEING A VERB,
REAL LOVE IS ACTIVE AND PRODUCTIVE!**

LOVING UNTO THE END

Means serving Jesus Christ - Because He Loves Us

1.) *Serving Jesus By Meditating Upon His Message to Me*

Meditate (action)

a twofold act of unpacking or uncluttering the mind
of all thoughts but one,
to concentrate the mind on one thing,
a state of focus. To give attention resulting in rest and renewal.

**To think about the same thing at length, simply,
and without interruption!**

Psalm 1:1

Blessed is the man Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in the seat of the scornful; :2 But his delight is in the law of the LORD, And in His law he meditates day and night. :3 He shall be like a tree Planted by the rivers of water, That brings forth its fruit in its season, Whose leaf also shall not wither; And whatever he does shall prosper.

Luke 10:39

And Martha had a sister named Mary,
who also **sat at Jesus' feet** and **heard His words**.

LOVING UNTO THE END

Means serving Jesus Christ - Because He Loves Us

2.) Serving Jesus By *Responding* in Worship Toward Him

Mark 14:3

And being in Bethany at the house of Simon the leper, as He sat at the table, a woman came having an alabaster flask of very costly oil of spikenard. Then she broke the flask and poured *it* on His head. :4 But there were some who were indignant among themselves, and said, "Why was this fragrant oil wasted? :5 For it might have been sold for more than three hundred denarii and given to the poor." And they criticized her sharply. :6 But Jesus said, "Let her alone. Why do you trouble her? She has done a good work for Me.

Our Worship is Limitless

(right now our worship is effective and happening in heaven, in eternity)

That's Faster Than DSL or Cable

LOVING UNTO THE END

Means serving Jesus Christ - Because He Loves Us

3.) Serving Jesus By *Willingly* Offering Myself Up as a Tool

**Presenting myself as "available"
the Christian has an invisible handle on their backs.**

Saul/Paul's Example

Acts 9:3-6

As he journeyed he came near Damascus, and suddenly a light shone around him from heaven. :4 Then he fell to the ground, and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?" :5 And he said, "Who are You, Lord?" ¶ Then the Lord said, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. It *is* hard for you to kick against the goads." :6 So he, trembling and astonished, said, "Lord, what do You want me to do?" Then the Lord *said* to him, "Arise and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do."

Romans 12:1-2

Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God — this is your spiritual act of worship. :2 Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is — his good, pleasing and perfect will.

LOVING UNTO THE END

Means serving Jesus Christ - Because He Loves Us

4.) Serving Jesus By *Anticipating* What He Wants to do

John 14:15

"If you love Me, keep My commandments.

"Commandments"

ἐντολή entole, *en-tol-ay*´; injunction, an authoritative prescription. The next order or command.

"General Jesus"

Not The Big Ten Commandments, But The "Whatever's Next Commandments"

I'm Serving Jesus Christ
while I am waiting for the next step; because my heart is already at it!

I'm Just Waiting - With Anticipation!!!

This is the kind of Christian God Can Use.

God-Spots in Our Lives

Whatever My Vocation Is, It's Now My Ministry
A mother raising her child / a dad coaching that team /
The office or the site / everywhere and anywhere becomes a God-Spot

But How Can I Do That?

LOVING UNTO THE END

Means serving Jesus Christ - Because He Loves Us

5.) Serving Jesus By *Advancing* His Kingdom

Matthew 28:19

Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, :20 teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, *even to the end of the age.*”

1Corinthians 16:9

For a great and effective door has opened to me,
and *there are many adversaries.*

Revelation 3:8

“I know your works. See, I have set before you an open door, and no one can shut it; for you have a little strength, have kept My word, and have not denied My name.

But How Do We Do That?

LOVING UNTO THE END

3b.) Love means serving one another - *We Love Him*

In What Way Can I Serve Others?

John 13:34

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another;
as I have loved you, that you also love one another.

LOVING UNTO THE END

Means serving one another - Because We Love Him

1.) Serving One Another By *Blessing* the Family

In everything we are sending a message more powerful than words

**God *Invented* and *Manufactured*
The Human Family**

Ephesians 5:21-26

Submitting to one another in the fear of God. :22 ¶ Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. :23 For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body. :24 Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so *let* the wives *be* to their own husbands in everything. :25 ¶ Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, :26 that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word,

Colossians 3:18

Wives, submit to your own husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.
:19 Husbands, love your wives

Colossians 3:20

Children, obey your parents in all things, for this is well pleasing to the Lord. :21
Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged.

1Timothy 3:2-5

A Pastor then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, temperate, sober-minded, of good behavior, hospitable, able to teach; :3 not given to wine, not violent, not greedy for money, but gentle, not quarrelsome, not covetous; :4 one who rules his own house well, having *his* children in submission with all reverence :5 (for if a man does not know how to rule his own house, how will he take care of the church of God?);

LOVING UNTO THE END

Means serving one another - Because We Love Him

2.) Serving One Another By **Offering** Myself Up as a Tool

Presenting myself "available"

the Christian has an invisible handle on their backs.

Phil. 2:3

Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself.

Ephesians 5:1

Therefore be imitators of God as dear children. :2 And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma.

Matthew 25:34

Then the King will say to those on His right hand, "Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: :35 for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; :36 I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.' :37 "Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed *You*, or thirsty and give *You* drink? :38 When did we see You a stranger and take *You* in, or naked and clothe *You*?

:39 Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?' **:40** And the King will answer and say to them, "Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did *it* to one of the least of these My brethren, you did *it* to Me.

LOVING UNTO THE END

Means serving one another - Because We Love Him

3.) Serving One Another By ***Helping*** Those Around Me

**Daily, The Lord has Divine Appointments for Us
The Christians Situations in Life**

1John 3:14-17

We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love the brethren. He who does not love *his* brother abides in death. **:15** Whoever hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him. **:16** By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down *our* lives for the brethren. **:17** But whoever has this world's goods, and sees his brother in need, and shuts up his heart from him, how does the love of God abide in him?

James 1:27

Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.

Matthew 5:41

And whoever compels you to go one mile, go with him two.

LOVING UNTO THE END

Means serving one another - Because We Love Him

4.) Serving One Another By ***Praying*** for Others

**When we love the Lord Jesus, We will become concerned about the Same
Things That Concern Him**

Ephesians 6:18

Pray at all times and on every occasion in the power of the Holy Spirit. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all Christians everywhere.

Jesus' Example

John 17:9a

"I pray for them.

1Thessalonians 5:25

Brethren, pray for us.

Matthew 5:44

But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you,

LOVING UNTO THE END

Means serving one another - Because We Love Him

5.) Serving One Another By **Encouraging** His Kingdom

Acts 11:22-24

Then news of these things came to the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent out Barnabas to go as far as Antioch. :23 When he came and had seen the grace of God, he was glad, and **encouraged** them all that with purpose of heart they should continue with the Lord. :24 For he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a great many people were added to the Lord.

"encouraged"

παρακαλέω parakaleo, *par-ak-al-eh'-o*;

to call near or to pull close along side of, i.e. invite, invoke by exhortation = with God, you can do this!

We Need These Kind of Christians Today

Romans 1:12

I'm eager to encourage you in your faith, but I also want to be encouraged by yours. In this way, each of us will be a blessing to the other.

Colossians 2:1-3

For I want you to know what a great conflict I have for you and those in Laodicea, and *for* as many as have not seen my face in the flesh, :2 that their hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love, and *attaining* to all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the knowledge of the mystery of God, both of the Father and of Christ, :3 in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

What Can I Do To Show Love?

The Lord Has Pre-Fitted, Tailored a Ministry for Me

Each and Every *Real* Christian Has a Roll to Play in the Body of Christ.

When I'm Loving God, My Brothers and Sisters I'm Serving

I've a Long Way to Go, But I'm Not The Same Man I Once Was.

I Can Always Tell When I Am Loving God the Best,

By How Much Others Are Blessed Around Me.

**IF I'M OBEDIENT TO GOD -
OTHERS WILL BE BLESSED**

If You Need Ministry of Any Kind

**as soon as this song is over, you come forward today, and experience God's
mercy and grace in your own life.**

End of Study