

## Love – Part 4: Love Is Not...

1 Corinthians 13:6

Our dividing the studies between verses 5 and 6 is really arbitrary. Verse 6 continues the thought begun in verse 4.

### Passage:

<sup>6</sup>does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth;

<13:4> Ἡ ἀγάπη μακροθυμεῖ χρηστεύεται ἡ ἀγάπη, οὐ ζηλοῖ, [ἡ ἀγάπη] οὐ περπερεύεται οὐ φυσιοῦται, <13:5> οὐκ ἀσχημονεῖ, οὐ ζητεῖ τὰ ἑαυτῆς, οὐ παροξύνεται, οὐ λογίζεται τὸ κακόν, <13:6> οὐ χαίρει ἐπὶ τῇ ἀδικίᾳ, συγχαίρει δὲ τῇ ἀληθείᾳ· <13:7> πάντα στέγει, πάντα πιστεύει, πάντα ἐλπίζει, πάντα ὑπομένει.

ASV – rejoiceth not in unrighteousness, but rejoiceth with the truth;

BBE – It takes no pleasure in wrongdoing, but has joy in what is true;

KJV – Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth;

NASB – does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth;

NIV – Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth.

NKJV – does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth;

NRSV – it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth.

RSV – it does not rejoice at wrong, but rejoices in the right.

Wey – She finds no pleasure in injustice done to others, but joyfully sides with the truth.

YLT – rejoiceth not over the unrighteousness, and rejoiceth with the truth;

Phillips – (5-6) Love has good manners and does not pursue selfish advantage. It is not touchy. It does not keep account of evil or gloat over the wickedness of other people. On the contrary, it is glad with all good men when truth prevails.

Message – (4-7) - Love never gives up. Love cares more for others than for self. Love doesn't want what it doesn't have. Love doesn't strut, Doesn't have a swelled head, Doesn't force itself on others, Isn't always "me first," Doesn't fly off the handle, Doesn't keep score of the sins of others, Doesn't revel when others grovel, Takes pleasure in the flowering of truth, Puts up with anything, Trusts God always, Always looks for the best, Never looks back, But keeps going to the end.

Gal. 5:22-26 - <sup>22</sup>But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup>gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. <sup>24</sup>Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. <sup>25</sup>If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit. <sup>26</sup>Let us not become boastful, challenging one another, envying one another.

<5:22> Ὁ δὲ καρπὸς τοῦ πνεύματος ἐστὶν ἀγάπη χαρὰ εἰρήνη, μακροθυμία χρηστότης ἀγαθωσύνη, πίστις <5:23> πραύτης ἐγκράτεια· κατὰ τῶν τοιούτων οὐκ ἔστιν νόμος. <5:24> οἱ δὲ τοῦ Χριστοῦ [Ἰησοῦ] τὴν σάρκα ἐσταύρωσαν σὺν τοῖς παθήμασιν καὶ ταῖς ἐπιθυμίαις. <5:25> εἰ ζῶμεν

πνεύματι, πνεύματι καὶ στοιχῶμεν. <5:26> μὴ γινώμεθα κενόδοξοι, ἀλλήλους προκαλοῦμενοι, ἀλλήλοις φθονοῦντες.

### Break It Down:

Remember that every instance of the word “love” is the Greek word “agape.”

And second, note that while in English love is defined in terms of adjectives, in the Greek, each of the words are verbs. The focus of the passage is about behavior.

<http://www.biblebb.com/files/MAC/sg1866.htm>

### Love does not delight in evil –

What does this mean to you? \_\_\_\_\_

93 adikia adikia {ad-ee-kee'-ah} from 94; TDNT - 1:153,22; n f

AV - unrighteousness 16, iniquity 6, unjust 2, wrong 1; 25

1) injustice, of a judge

2) unrighteousness of heart and life

3) a deed violating law and justice, act of unrighteousness

Again: is it not common for interested persons to rejoice in the successes of an unjust and sanguinary war, in the sackage and burning of cities and towns; and is not the joy always in proportion to the slaughter that has been made of the enemy? - Clarke

“Gossip is vice enjoyed vicariously.”

Pr 24:17 - Do not rejoice when your enemy falls, And do not let your heart be glad when he stumbles;

How should this aspect of love apply to you in your marriage? \_\_\_\_\_

Your parenting? \_\_\_\_\_

How would your house be different if this aspect of love reigned? \_\_\_\_\_

Your church relationships? \_\_\_\_\_

Your relationships with non-christians? \_\_\_\_\_

### Love rejoices in the truth –

Paul gets back to the positive side of love with this eleventh characteristic.

What does this mean to you? \_\_\_\_\_

225 aleyeia aletheia {al-ay'-thi-a} from 227; TDNT - 1:232,37; n f

AV - truth 107, truly + 1909 1, true 1, verity 1; 110

1) objectively

- 1a) what is true in any matter under consideration
  - 1a1) truly, in truth, according to truth
  - 1a2) of a truth, in reality, in fact, certainly
- 1b) what is true in things appertaining to God and the duties of man, moral and religious truth
  - 1b1) in the greatest latitude
  - 1b2) the true notions of God which are open to human reason without his supernatural intervention
- 1c) the truth as taught in the Christian religion, respecting God and the execution of his purposes through Christ, and respecting the duties of man, opposing alike to the superstitions of the Gentiles and the inventions of the Jews, and the corrupt opinions and precepts of false teachers even among Christians
- 2) subjectively
  - 2a) truth as a personal excellence
    - 2a1) that candour of mind which is free from affection, pretence, simulation, falsehood, deceit

2 John 6-11 - <sup>6</sup>And this is love, that we walk according to His commandments. This is the commandment, just as you have heard from the beginning, that you should walk in it. <sup>7</sup>For many deceivers have gone out into the world, those who do not acknowledge Jesus Christ *as* coming in the flesh. This is the deceiver and the antichrist. <sup>8</sup>Watch yourselves, that you might not lose what we have accomplished, but that you may receive a full reward. <sup>9</sup>Anyone who goes too far and does not abide in the teaching of Christ, does not have God; the one who abides in the teaching, he has both the Father and the Son. <sup>10</sup>If anyone comes to you and does not bring this teaching, do not receive him into *your* house, and do not give him a greeting; <sup>11</sup>for the one who gives him a greeting participates in his evil deeds.

Remember the context of our passage:

“John's just talking about love here, but he's saying that love is no excuse for indiscriminate behavior in regard to truth. Do you see? Love operates in the area of the commandments and love responds toward the people who teach the truth. So, love rejoices in those who teach the truth and with those who live the truth. But love doesn't rejoice indiscriminately with anybody and anything who just happen to throw the name God or Jesus around. The Bible, you see, is very stern in dealing with sin in behavior and with sin in doctrine.” – MacArthur

Does this verse mean that we should tell everything we think?

How should this aspect of love apply to you in your marriage? \_\_\_\_\_

Your parenting? \_\_\_\_\_

How would your house be different if this aspect of love reigned? \_\_\_\_\_

Your church relationships? \_\_\_\_\_

Your relationships with non-christians? \_\_\_\_\_

“Do you know what love does? Instead of parading somebody's evil, love finds the good in people and talks about that. I love to be around people like that, don't you? They help me so much. I call that kind of person a "plus" person. A "minus" person is somebody who goes around subtracting from people's reputations. I want to be a plus person. I want to add to people instead of subtracting from them.

You say, "But what if there isn't something good in a certain individual to talk about?" There's always something good! If Jesus could see some potential in Peter, He was definitely a plus person. Most of us would have fired Peter at the beginning of his ministry, but Jesus didn't. Jesus could see a plus in the life of a harlot who washed His feet with penitent tears, when the Pharisee could see nothing but a minus. Jesus could see a plus in a half-breed Samaritan. Jesus could see a plus in a Roman soldier standing at His crucifixion, when He acknowledged that he had greater faith than all those who professed the name of God. Jesus was a plus person. He added to people; He didn't subtract from people. Love is a plus-- it's positive. It encourages goodness, finds the best in a person, and then exalts it.

I hope you teach your children to be plus people. I hope they grow up learning to say good things about others. You'll find that children will bloom in the sunshine of the spirit that encourages, helps, and builds them up.

There was a dear Scottish minister who all his life loved the simple people in Scotland. When he died, someone said of him, "Now there is no one left in our village to appreciate the triumphs of ordinary folks." I hope there's somebody in your family to appreciate the triumphs of ordinary folks. Love does, you know. It looks for the truth and the true behavior, and then rejoices with it. And by rejoicing when there's good behavior, it encourages more good behavior. But if all you ever do is depreciate others, that's the kind of response you'll get. If people find that you are lifting them up when truth exists, then they'll want and seek the truth. Love always rejoices in the truth.”

## Conclusion:

What would you say is the core message of today's passage (13:6)?

Is there any practical lesson you can walk away with from today's passage?

Selflessness could very well be considered the key to love as described by Paul in 1 Corinthians 13. List the fifteen qualities of love from verses 4-7, and then determine how selflessness relates to each one.