**An Uncompromised Love**

Charity is a special word for a Special Kind of Love to show to others for God’s Glory

The King James translators purposely chose the word charity in some places and love in others. They saw an importance in distinguishing some of the uses of {“agape”} in a specific way. Our Love is to be to the Glory of God.

Some form of the word charity is found in the Bible 29 times.

**The Charity Chapter** 1 Corinthians 13: “Charity” is used nine times in chapter thirteen. Nine often denotes a spiritual fruitfulness, as in the nine-fold fruit of the spirit. (Gal.5:22-23)

**The Love Chapter** 1 John 4 love is mentioned 27 times; a trinity of a nine fold fruitfulness ("beloved" is used 3 times as well). 1 John 4: 1, 7-21

1Cor. 13:13 And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity.

* **Charity** is the "greatest" of the three gifts

Col 3:14 And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness.

* “Bond of Perfectness”

1Timothy 1:5 Now the end of the commandment is charity out of a pure heart, and of a good conscience, and of faith unfeigned:

* “End of the Commandment”

2Peter 1:5—*And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge;*

*6 And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness*

*7 And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity.*

* Charity is the climax of Nine fruits mentioned II Peter 1:5-7
  + Through the Righteousness of Christ
  + Through the Knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ
    - *“like Precious Faith”*
    - *Peace*
    - *virtue*
    - *knowledge*
    - *temperance*
    - *patience*
    - *godliness*
    - *brotherly kindness*
    - *charity*

1Cor. 13:3—*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*.

“Charity” is more than giving, according to I Cor. 13:3. Giving is not enough. “Charity” is more than loving but loving for the Glory of God, by the Power of God and through the Grace and Knowledge of God to the edifying of those of like precious faith. (II Peter 1:1-10)

Romans 14:13 Let us not therefore judge one another any more: but judge this rather, that no man put a stumblingblock or an occasion to fall in his brother's way.

14 I know, and am persuaded by the Lord Jesus, that there is nothing unclean of itself: but to him that esteemeth any thing to be unclean, to him it is unclean.

15 But if thy brother be grieved with thy meat, now walkest thou not charitably. Destroy not him with thy meat, for whom Christ died. 16 **Let not then your good be evil spoken of**:

17 For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost. 18 For he that in these things serveth Christ is acceptable to God, and approved of men.

19 Let us therefore follow after the things which make for peace, and things wherewith one may edify another.

1Co 2:15 But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man. 1Co 8:1 ¶ Now as touching things offered unto idols, we know that we all have knowledge. Knowledge puffeth up, but charity edifieth.

2Thess. 1:3—*We are bound to thank God always for you, brethren, as it is meet, because that your faith groweth exceedingly, and the charity of every one of you all toward each other aboundeth;*

1Peter 4:8—*And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves: for charity shall cover the multitude of sins.*

*9 Use hospitality one to another without grudging.*

3John 1:5—*Beloved, thou doest faithfully whatsoever thou doest to the brethren, and to strangers;*

*6 Which have borne witness of thy charity before the church: whom if thou bring forward on their journey after a godly sort, thou shalt do well:*

“Charity” is a special word for the special kind of Love that **believers should have especially for each other.**

**It is the Grace of God that provides for a diligent faith to be added to.**

Eph 1:6 To the praise of the glory of his **grace**, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved.

1Thess. 2:12 That ye would walk worthy of God, who hath called you unto his kingdom and glory.

4:7 For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness.

2Th 2:14 Whereunto he called you by our gospel, to the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

2Tim. 1:9 Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and **grace**, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began,

1Peter 2:9 But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:

1Pe 2:19 For this is thankworthy, if a man for conscience toward God endure grief, suffering wrongfully. {thankworthy: or, thank **GRACE**}

20 For what glory is it, if, when ye be buffeted for your faults, ye shall take it patiently? but if, when ye do well, and suffer for it, ye take it patiently, this is acceptable with God. {acceptable: or, thank **GRACE**}

3:8 Finally, be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous:

9 Not rendering evil for evil, or railing for railing: but contrariwise blessing; knowing that ye are thereunto called, that ye should inherit a blessing.

10 For he that will love life, and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile:

11 Let him eschew evil, and do good; let him seek peace, and ensue it.

12 For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers: but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil.

13 And who is he that will harm you, if ye be followers of that which is good?

14 But and if ye suffer for righteousness' sake, happy are ye: and be not afraid of their terror, neither be troubled;

15 But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:

16 Having a good conscience; that, whereas they speak evil of you, as of evildoers, they may be ashamed that falsely accuse your good conversation in Christ.

17 For it is better, if the will of God be so, that ye suffer for well doing, than for evil doing.

18 For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit:

1Pe 5:10 But the God of all **grace**, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you.

1Co 13:1 -13

1Co 16:14 Let all your things be done with charity.

Col 3:14 And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness.

1Th 3:6 ¶ But now when Timotheus came from you unto us, and brought us good tidings of your faith and charity, and that ye have good remembrance of us always, desiring greatly to see us, as we also to see you:

1Ti 1:5 ¶ Now the end of the commandment is charity out of a pure heart, and of a good conscience, and of faith unfeigned:

1Ti 2:15 Notwithstanding she shall be saved in childbearing, if they continue in faith and charity and holiness with sobriety.

1Ti 4:12 Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity.

2Ti 2:22 ¶ Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

2Ti 3:10 ¶ But thou hast fully known my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, charity, patience, {fully...: or, been a diligent follower of} with (**Uncompromised Love)**

Titus 2:2 That the aged men be sober, grave, temperate, sound in faith, in charity, in patience.

Follow after Charity

1Cor. 14:1—**Follow after charity**, and desire spiritual gifts, but rather that ye may prophesy.

1. **Gifts** are to be desired, especially prophecy.

A. Love is to be pursued above all else in life. Gifts, abilities, and service are important; but they are insignificant in comparison with love to the Glory of God. Love is the greatest need and the supreme answer to all the needs of men. It is when we love a person that we meet the needs of a person. In fact, if we truly love a person, then we will do all we can to edify that person to the Glory of God.

⇒  The word "follow" (*diōkete*) means to pursue, to persist, to continue on and on, never giving up until our love is to the praise of the Glory of God’s Grace.

B. Spiritual gifts are to be desired. We are to pursue love first, the more we love God and men, the more we covet the gifts of God so that we can minister and help the world of men more effectively.

⇒  The word "desire" (*zēloute*) means to covet earnestly; to be zealous and ambitious for.

The greatest of these is charity (Love to God’s Glory) *(1Cor.13:13)*

Thegreatest of all love, is love for Him and His Holiness

Holiness *is before all, Love is before you with faith and Hope,*

Love is *set before you as chief to Follow*

Love is *set before you as principal..to Follow*

*We ought to* ***love Him***

*We ought to* ***love His Holiness***

*Mal 2:11 Judah hath dealt treacherously, and an abomination is committed in Israel and in Jerusalem; for Judah hath profaned the holiness of the LORD which he loved, and hath married the daughter of a strange god. {loved: or, ought to love }*

**1Tim. 2:15** *“continue in faith and charity and holiness with sobriety”*

**1Tim. 6:11** *But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and* ***follow*** *after righteousness, godliness, faith****, love****, patience, meekness.*

**Faith and Love** working together produces the **Righteousness of God.**

1Thes. 5:8*—But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the* ***breastplate of faith and love****; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation.*

Eph 6:14*—Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the* ***breastplate of righteousness****;*

Luke 1:75*—In holiness and righteousness before him, all the days of our life*

Romans 6:19*—I speak after the manner of men because of the infirmity of your flesh: for as ye have yielded your members servants to uncleanness and to iniquity unto iniquity; even so now yield your members servants to righteousness unto holiness.*

Eph 4:24*—And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.*

*No matter how weak spiritually one may be, all can follow after Love, but you must follow on to His perfect Holiness.*

2Cor. 13:11*—Finally, brethren, farewell. Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace shall be with you.*

1John 4:17*—Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world.*  18*—There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.*

Num. 32:12*—Save Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenezite, and Joshua the son of Nun: for they have wholly followed the LORD.*

De 1:36*—Save Caleb the son of Jephunneh; he shall see it, and to him will I give the land that he hath trodden upon, and to his children, because he hath wholly followed the LORD.*

Joshua 14:8—*Nevertheless my brethren that went up with me made the heart of the people melt: but I wholly followed the LORD my God.*

9*—And Moses sware on that day, saying, Surely the land whereon thy feet have trodden shall be thine inheritance, and thy children's for ever, because thou hast wholly followed the LORD my God.*

The Kind of Person Christ Calls to be His Disciples

Mat. 4:19—*And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men*

What kind of person does Christ call?

Christ calls ordinary people who will simply make themselves available to Him to make them faithful.

*Where* were they when Jesus called His first disciples. They were out in the work-world. This is not to de-emphasize the importance of learning, but it does teach at least two things.

First, position and power, wealth and security, religion and ever learning and not coming to the knowledge of the truth, can hurt and keep a person away from God. Such things can make a person so self-confident with personal assurance that he becomes useless to God. God is unable to work His power through him. The man's own abilities and energy block God's gifts and power from flowing through him.

God can use those who love to the Glory of God, able and willing to respond together faithfully.

**I.** The first men called. Traits seen in the men, traits that show what kind of person is called by Christ.

1.  The men called by Christ were **brothers who worked together**.

**A brotherly spirit**—the kind of spirit Christ desires of His followers. The kind of kingdom Christ is building is a kingdom of followers with a brotherly spirit. with (**Uncompromised Love)**

Mat. 22:39—*And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.*

John 13:35*—By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.*

15:12*—This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you.*

Romans 12:10*—Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another;*

1Peter 1:22*—Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently:*

b. **Togetherness**— cooperation—a nature and willingness to serve together to the Glory of God

2.  The men called by Christ were **industrious** and **frugal** **workers**

Peter, Andrew, James and John were busy at work when Christ called them. Too many believers are sitting and are inactive. Therefore, they miss out on the higher calling of God.

3.  The men called by Christ were called to follow Him and they were to ***immediately* follow Him**.

The disciple is called to follow Christ personally, to attach himself to Christ before he does anything else. Personal discipleship, that is, personal attachment, is essential A person must first **learn Christ by love, following Him, before he can serve Christ faithfully.**

**Mt 11:29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in hea**rt: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

 The Lord's call is to a personal relationship, to become attached to Him, “Follow Me and I will make you” Our Love and our lives to His Glory