



WORD

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Praise The Lord For: THE GREATEST THING IN THE WORLD

The 13th chapter of I Corinthians is devoted entirely to the subject of love, and according to Jesus' words, love is the sum of all the law and the prophets.

A man by the name of Henry Drummond wrote a little book based on I Corinthians 13 entitled "The Greatest Thing in the World". In 1884, the great evangelist, Dwight L Moody, on one of his trips to England, heard Mr. Drummond give a devotion based on this. He was so impressed, he brought him to America to deliver this message here.

Love is indeed the greatest thing in the world. I Corinthians 13:13 says, "Now abideth faith, hope, and charity (love), these three; but the greatest of these is charity."

So what exactly is love? Paul answers this in I Corinthians 13:4-8 by describing it, telling what it does, and telling what it does not do. He said that love:

- Is patient—It suffers long. It demonstrates quietness, tolerance, forbearance, and does not complain while it waits.
- Is kind—Gentle and considerate; goodhearted; compassionate.
- Does not envy—Is not jealous, resentful, or discontent over the possessions of another; it does not desire to have what belongs to another.
- Does not vaunt itself—Is not boastful, but rather is humble.
- Does not behave itself unseemly—Does not behave improperly or unbecomingly.

- Seeks not its own—Is not selfish; but is willing to give up its own desires and rights.
- Is not easily provoked—Not easily stirred to anger or resentment; not ill tempered.
- Thinks no evil—Is not suspicious, treacherous, cunning, or deceitful.
- Rejoices not in iniquity—Is not happy over injustice or wrongdoing but rather rejoices in the truth...It stands on the side of truth and right; always...at all times.
- Bears all things—Holds up under pressure; it cannot be destroyed.
- Believes all things—Never loses faith.
- Endures all things—It lasts; it continues no matter what the circumstances.
- Charity never fails—All of the above!

Measured by Paul's description of love, Jesus' love for us is perfect, and our love falls way short! However, I John 4:16-18 tells us that the God who lives within us is love. Therefore, as we seek Him and fill our lives with Him, our capacity for love increases. May we saturate our lives with Christ that we may love God and others better.

Praise the Lord for love: The greatest thing in the world!

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