A Fresh Dimension On An Old Commandment

DR. Nicolas Ellen

A. The word new in the text means a "fresh dimension".

B. The "fresh dimension" to the old command was that love is to be given in the sacrificial manner that Jesus gave to the believers.

C. The selfless service and sacrifice of His life as a ransom for others was altogether new and consequently was to be the model and standard for which their love for one another was to be measured.

D. In essence, we are called by the power of God to seek the highest good of others unconditionally, no strings attached.

E. We are called to respond to the condition and needs of others above the attractiveness and personal interest in others.

F. We are called to have a genuine concern and benevolence towards others.

A. Agape Love is not something we have to work up to give, it's something we work out through the power of the Holy Spirit within us. (Galatians 5:22-23)

B. Agape Love is not a continuum that flows automatically through us; it is developed through practice or derailed through disobedience to God. (1 John 2:9-11)

C. Agape Love is not given according to the character of the receiver but is given according to the character of the giver. (1 John 3:11-24)

D. Agape Love is an unlimited resource from the Nature of God which we can draw from at any time; Therefore, we have no excuse not to love others with agape love. (1 John 4:7)

E. It is hypocritical to expect agape love from others but not be willing to give agape love to others; we must be willing to give what we ask for. (Luke 6:27-36)

F. The evidence of our Christianity is revealed by the agape love we demonstrate to others through the power of God. (1 John 4:15-17)

A. Agape love is not merely using your spiritual gifts towards others.

B. Agape love is not merely giving your resources to others.

C. Agape love is not merely sacrificing yourself for others.

D. All these things can be done for the wrong motives.

E. Ability, service, and sacrifice without agape love becomes a tool for self-promotion and self-advancement. (Luke 18:9-14)

 F. Ability, service, and sacrifice without agape love lead to selfdenial about who you are and where God is with you. (Luke 18:9-14)



A. Agape – love that is based upon the power of God to seek the highest good of others unconditionally, with no strings attached.

B. Agape love is concerned not with how we feel, but with how we choose to think and act toward another.

C. Agape love responds not to the attractiveness of the other person but to the condition and needs of the other person.

D. Agape love's motivation is not the selfish desire to enjoy the other person but the selfless desire to benefit him.

E. Essentially, agape love is concerned and benevolent toward others in attitude and action. "

Key Point:

There is no use trying to do church work without love. A doctor, or a lawyer, may do good work without love, but God's work cannot be done without love. Without love, our most extraordinary gifts, and highest achievements are ultimately fruitless to the church and before God. Nothing has lasting spiritual value unless it springs from love.

A. Agape Love is patient- it suffers long or able to put up with people, their issues, and the issues they bring into our lives for a long period of time and in the proper way without responding in a hastily sinful response internally and externally.

B. Agape Love is Kind- to be genuine, sincere, and willing in attitude as well as genuine and sincere in the actions of ministering good and showing compassion towards others unconditionally for the Glory of God and the blessing of others without looking for anything in return to self from others.

C. Agape Love is Not Jealous- There is not a demeanor of dissatisfaction, rivalry, or dislike towards others due to the fact or thought that they are or seem to be, ahead of you, above you, superior to you, or have something you treasure at a level above you. This Love is happy for others in their advancements ahead of you, achievements superior to you, accomplishments above you, or acquisitions of things you treasure but do not have or do not have at the level of that person.

D. Agape Love does not brag- it does not promote itself; it seeks to promote and praise God and others above self.

E. Agape Love is not arrogant- does not think of self as more important than others, better than others, or the creator and sustainer of all his own abilities, accomplishments, knowledge, blessings, liberties, benefits, or experiences. Love has a right view of self-according to his position before God and his position before man with a submissive and servant heart towards God and man as empowered and commanded by God to do so.

F. Agape Love does not act unbecomingly- it is not rude, rash, impolite, indecent, insensitive, inconsiderate, disrespectful, or dishonorable in words, behavior, or actions towards others; Love is considerate, courteous, respectable, right, decent, delicate, sensitive or sympathetic in words, behavior, or actions towards others for the glory of God and the benefit of others.

G. Agape Love does not seek its own- it does not live to please the self. Love lives to please God thereby, seeking the greatest good of others for God's glory and for other people's utmost welfare.

H. Agape Love is not provoked – it is not irritated, not easily annoyed, not easily upset, or quit to have a fit in difficult situations with people or in difficult situations in life overall. Love is peaceful in disposition, calm or gentle, in difficult situations with people or in difficult situations in life overall.

I. Agape Love does not take into account a wrong suffered – it does not keep a list in one's mind with the intent to get back at the person for the sinful, troublesome, painful, or disappointing activities a person has done against them; Love has a mindset of compassion in relation to the one who has wronged him intentionally, unintentionally, actually or imagined. Love is willing and ready to forgive and forgive according to God's design.

J. Agape Love does not rejoice in unrighteousness but rejoices with the truth. It does not take joy in, take pleasure in, or find satisfaction in evil or unrighteousness of any kind but it takes joy in, takes pleasure in, or finds satisfaction in right living practiced by others and the triumphs of others in right living practiced.

K. Agape Love bears all things, does not give way to the temptation to respond in sin to the pressure put on them by others via their sinful attitudes, strange or unusual ways, or personal preferences, but seeks to do what is right by them or to them according to the need of the moment on a consistent basis.

L. Agape Love believes all things- It seeks to understand people in the best possible light without ignoring or disregarding their proven character flaws and sin issues; Love stays away from developing a suspicious, cynical, doubtful, skeptical, faultfinding, judgmental, or hypercritical pattern of thinking about a person as result of their proven character flaws and sin issues.

M. Agape Love hopes all things- no matter what the situation, love considers the bright side of things for the person by looking to the grace of God in relation to the person.

N. Agape Love endures all things- Love continues to do what is right with people and in circumstances even when facing difficulty or hardships.

Evaluate the roles you have in life and identify ways you can be open and loving within that role to others. 1 Corinthians 13:4-8

The Various Roles I have in Life	Loving Thoughts I should have towards others in this role	Loving Words I should have towards others in this role	Loving Service I should do towards others in this role	Any other things I can think of	
Husband/Father					
Wife/Mother					
Child					
Brother					
Sister					
Aunt					
Niece					
Nephew					

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Grandfather					
Grandmother					
Cousin					
Mother-in-law					
Father-in-law					
Son-in-law					
Daughter-in-law					
Friend					

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Co-worker					
Employer					
Employee					
Enemy					
Neighbor					
Authority figure					
Subordinate					