

L134 | I Corinthians | Charity in All Things

I. Intro/Review:

- "doth not behave itself unseemly"
 - Suitable, fitting, to God's purpose for the body
 - Worship and serve Him
 - Love one another
- "seeketh not her own"

II. Preview:

1. "is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil;"
2. "rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth;"
3. "beareth, believeth, hopeth, endure all things."

III. Sermon:

"Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil;"
{1 Corinthians 13:5}

1. "is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil;"

- Seems to double down on charity "suffereth long, and is kind"
- The root of not being "easily provoked" is charity seeketh not her own, because charity "doth not behave itself unseemly"
- "provoked" - excited, roused, incited, made angry
 - Provocation has to do with the stirring up of one by another - a stirring up to anger and wrath
 - God is just is dispensing the fury of His wrath, but with man it manifests our injustice - we become what we despise.
 - Provocation can lead to contention, strife and is kin to hatred that can lead to murder.
 - In fact, it is the residue of thinking evilly toward another that will lesser the duration of your wrath.
 - Yet, love worketh no ill to his neighbor, thus charity is powerful to employ calm, mildness, and poise in the face of intentional incitement of one's nature inclinations to anger.

- In fact, charity is easily provoked to some things, but not to others - this distinction will be made more in v6 - iniquity and truth
- Acts 17:6 - "stirred" - when Paul sees the city wholly given to idolatry
- **"easily"** - without difficulty or great labor; without great exertion
 - "not easily" - it takes a great labor from another to provoke us, to stir us up in anger toward another
- Anger/Wrath
 - Anger - ought not be equated with ill-will for anger may have the desire for one's true welfare; however, anger that is unlawful if it entertains ill-will.
 - We can be angry and pray for those that despitefully use us, that persecute us.
 - We can be angry about those that persecute us yet bless them.
 - All revenge is forbidden even to "thinking evil"
 - We give place to wrath
 - Leviticus 19:18
 - Rom. 12:19
 - Eph. 4:26
 - Ep. 3:21
 - 1 Pet. 2:18-25
 - James 1:19-20
- **"thinketh no evil"** - thinking the worst of those about us
 - Judges righteously

"Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth;"
{1 Corinthians 13:6}

2. "rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth;"

- Charity denies iniquity but accepts truth
- Titus 2
- The gospel
- Examine ourselves, others, situations

Bearth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.
{1 Corinthians 13:7}

3. "all things"

- All-encompassing - the addressing of all things and charity and charity in all things

1. "bearth all things"

- All suffering that could be produced charity can bear it all
- 2 Cor. 12:10

- Php. 3:8
- 2 Cor. 6:4-5
- Heb. 11:35-36
- Matt. 10:39

2. "believeth all things"

- Faith promotes charity, and love is the most effectual component of faith working
- Charity toward God will believeth all things that God teaches concerning Himself, others, and the world we live in

3. "hopeth all things"

- Charity addresses our hope - casts out fear - God's charity toward us fills us freely with all things and provides us a hope to have patience in all things.

4. "endureth all things."

- Is a constant, unrelenting, it is persevering, unconquerable
- Rom. 8 - nothing can separate us
- 1 Cor. 15 - triumph in Christ
- 1 Jn. - faith overcomes the world

IV. Conclusion:

- As Christian we begin at a place of victory - hence it is faith in what we have in Christ that exercises that victory in our mind and heart.
- We war with our enemies under our feet.
- We are free to love because we have been loved - we possess everything in Christ therefore we can really lose nothing or we are free to lose everything in this world.
- Charity is the remedy to the Corinthians spiritual gifts debacle. Pride, selfishness, envy, and a quickness to contention is fruitless and without charity there is no faith in God's things, without charity there is no hope in God's things to even begin to remedy the issues at hand.
- Yet, charity grants all things to all situations.
 - Bond of perfectness
 - Increase and abound
- Charity sanctifies the gifts, the gifts don't sanctify charity.
- Charity is the means by which to speak the same thing, have the same judgment, to be perfectly joined together
 - Charity is fellowship with Christ.