

L131 | I Corinthians | Charity Vaunteth Not Itself | I Cor. 13:4-7

I. Intro/Review:

- "envy" - spirit of dissatisfaction to another's prosperity in comparison to your own
 - Someone has more than we do or more happiness than we do
 - Comparative eminence is above and others below
 - Glad to see others diminished
 - Backbiting - reputation or prominence diminished in eyes of others
- It isn't that a Christian will never have this disposition of spirit, but when it is recognized it will be abhorred and unbecoming to Christ and contrary to the Spirit.

II. Preview:

- Charity's fight against envy
- Charity Vaunteth Not Itself

III. Sermon:

- Charity's fight against envy
 1. Contentment - Php. 4
 - Contentment of estate
 - Quietness - 1 Tim. 2
 - Satisfaction of allotments, stations, and possessions
 - Whether rich or poor
 - Whether greatest to least
 2. Rejoice at others prosperity
 - Rom. 12:15
 - 1 Cor. 12 - one honored all honored (care for all)
 3. Christ
 - 2 Cor. 8:9
 - Php. 2
 - 1 Jn. 4:7, 16

**Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up,
{1 Corinthians 13:4}**

- "charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up,"
 - 3 Component of Charity being brought up
 1. "charity suffereth long, and is kind"
 2. "charity envieth not;"

3. "charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up,"
 2. "doth not behave itself unseemly"
 3. "seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil;"

- **"vaunteth not itself"**

- **"vaunteth"** - to boast; make a vain display of one own's worth, attainments or decorations

- Overvalue and estimation of self

1. "charity suffereth long, and is kind" - meekly bearing the injuries from others upon our estate
2. "charity envieth not" - the proper view of others estate in comparison to our own
3. "charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up," - the godly perspective of one own's estate

- Charity in the one hand keeps us from envying what others have and in the other restrains and prevents us from glorying in what we possess or are

- Charity is contrary to the spirit of envy upon others estate and equally contrary to the swelling mind of one's own estate.

- Prosperity, by which I mean, high reputation or abundant wealth, etc doesn't equal pride but lends to it as often "envy" reveals.

- 1 Timothy 6:1ff (:5, 9-11, 17-19)

- When one is of an high estate yet does not vaunt nor behave unseemly it manifests godliness; therefore, a contrariness to the world, the norm and standard and instead of envy, strife, or contention it can work a godly satisfaction of others in the enjoyment of your high estate.

- Consistent to God and godliness - Riches of God's grace/riches of His mercy (Eph. 1&2)

- Charity would have us behave suitably to our condition

1. If below = envy not/contentment/thankfulness/give
2. If above = pride not/contentment/thankfulness/give

- **"vaunteth not itself"**

- A behavior indecent and unbecoming to one's high estate as God is concerned

- The antithesis of "vaunting" is humility

- True-godly humility comes from the perpetual mind and heart derived from our comparative unworthiness before God and that we will have to give an account to our disposition and behavior.

- Rom. 12:3
- Gen. 18:27

- This Christian, humble spirit derived from our understanding before God is then pointed toward man.
 - Not greedy (Eph. 4) of honor, riches, possessions, etc
 - Rom. 12:16 - mind not high things
 - Not seeking recognition from others, solicit his abilities for the sake of honor
 - Does not have the behavior of the Pharisee to be seen of men but content that His Father in heaven beholds in secret

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

IV. Conclusion: