

I. Love Is The Predominant Attribute of the Christian

A. Love is inseparable from faith (1 John 3:23) - “And this is His commandment, that we believe in the name of His Son Jesus Christ and that we love one another, just as He has commanded us.”

B. Love as a revelation of identity (John 13:34-35) - “A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this, all people will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”

C. Love as a perpetually controlling principle (John 15:12, 17) - “This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you...These things I command you, so that you will love one another.”

II. Love As The Byproduct of Abiding in Jesus

A. Love is naturally supernatural (1 Thessalonians 4:9) - “Now concerning brotherly love **you have no need for anyone to write you**, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love one another.”

B. Love is possible for all believers (1 Peter 1:22-23) - “Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart, since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God.”

C. Love is evidence of our redemption (1 John 3:14) - “We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brothers. Whoever does not love abides in death.”

III. Love Is Not Static, It's Kinetic (depending on movement for its effectiveness)

A. Love is a debt we owe to everyone (Romans 13:8) - “Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the Law.”

B. Love is more than verbal, it's visible (1 John 3:17-18) - “If anyone has this world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? Little children, let us not in word or talk, but in deed and in truth.”

C. Love exerts itself (Galatians 5:13) - “For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh but, through love, serve one another.”

D. Loving well is hard work (Ephesians 4:1-3) - “I therefore, a prisoner of the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.”

E. Love reassures us for the Second Coming (1 Thessalonians 3:12-13) - “May the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, as we do for you, so that He may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all His saints.”