



**“GOD’S AMAZING LOVE EXALTED” Part 4**  
**I Corinthians 13:10-13**

**INTRODUCTION & REVIEW**

GOD’S LOVE IS EXPLAINED - 13:4-7

GOD’S LOVE IS EXALTED - 13:8-10

BECAUSE IT ENDURES – 8 - “*love never ends*”

BECAUSE IT EXISTS WHEN GIFTS ARE NO MORE – 8-10

1. The Inability Of Gifts To Last Forever – 8b

- PROPHECIES/KNOWLEDGE - they shall be phased out
- TONGUES- “*cease*” – come to an abrupt stop

2. The Incompleteness Of These Gifts – 9 “*in part*”

**3. The Impact Of That Which Is Perfect – 10**

Greek: *to teleion* – neuter word used 75 times in NT

The usage of the word “*perfect*”

- Completing a task - John 4:34; 17:4; Acts 20:24
- Biological growth - I Cor. 14:20
- Maturity – Eph. 4:13; Col. 1:28

The understanding of the word “*perfect*”

*Some Views...*

- Refers to the Bible - James 1:22-25
- Refers to spiritual maturity - 1 Cor. 13:11; Eph. 4:13
- Refers to Jesus Christ – 12
- Refers to the 2nd Coming of Christ as an event
- Refers to love itself - 1 John 4:18

***Remember...***

Your responsibility, by God’s enabling, is to constantly apply the divine principles and truths you have heard (Phil. 2:12-13; 1 Tim. 4:7-9; Jam 1:22-27).

As you meditate on this message, ask yourself these questions:

How does God want my beliefs/actions to change?

How can I accomplish this change?

What is the first step toward bringing about this change?

## THE PERFECT IS THE ETERNAL STATE

Rev. 21:23; 1 Cor. 13:12

- Allows for neuter form of “perfect”
- Allows for continuation of knowledge and prophecy
- Fits context of Paul’s emphasis of love’s permanence
- Fits “face to face” reference in v. 12
- Fits “then I shall know fully” reference in v. 12

## BECAUSE IT EXCLUDES IMMATURITY – 11

The word for “*child*” - *nepios* used 14x

## BECAUSE IT ENABLES US WHILE WE WAIT FOR A GREATER KNOWLEDGE – 12

### Our Present BURDEN:

- **Limited Vision**  
*“For now we see in a mirror dimly” - ainigmati – obscurity*
- **Insufficient Knowledge** - “for we know in part” – v. 9

### Our Future BLESSING:

- **A Clear Picture** - “but then face to face” – used 11x
- **A Greater Perspective** - “then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known.” *Psalm 139:1-6*

## BECAUSE IT EXCELS ALL OTHER SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS - 13

## WHY IS LOVE GREATER THAN FAITH AND HOPE?

- Because God is LOVE – *1 John 4:8*
- Because without it, we would have no faith or hope  
*John 3:16; Rom. 5:8; 1 John 4:9-10, 19*
- Because of its wider application - *1 John 3:17-18; 4:20-21*
- Because it is the primary motive for obedience and service  
*John 14:15; 11 Cor. 5:14; Gal. 5:13; 1 John 5:2-3*
- Because love edifies other believers  
*1 Cor. 8:1; Eph. 4:15-16; Col. 3:12-14*
- Because love can do what faith and hope cannot do  
*Eph. 4:32-5:2; 1 Pet. 4:8*
- Because it does not depend upon things outside of itself in order to function!