



**“GOD’S AMAZING LOVE EXPLAINED”**  
**I Corinthians 13:4-7**

**INTRODUCTION & REVIEW**

GOD’S LOVE IS ESSENTIAL – 13:1-3

**GOD’S LOVE IS EXPLAINED - 13:4-7**

*“the love” - agape*

**1. THE CHARACTER OF GOD’S LOVE – 4 (“patient and kind”)**

**A. Love SUFFERS long with people “patient” = makrothumeeo**

*I Pet 3:20; Rom. 9:22; Ex 34:5-7; Num 14:18-19; Psa 86:15*

- ❖ **It is SLOW TO ANGER!** It means...
  - ...you have great understanding – *Prov 14:29*
  - ...you avoid hostile arguments – *Prov. 15:18*
  - ...you control your own spirit – *Prov. 16:32*
  - ...you overlook transgressions against you - *Prov. 19:11*
  
- ❖ **It is MERCIFUL AND COMPASSIONATE**  
*Psa 103:8; 145:8; I Tim 1:12-17*
  
- ❖ **It is WILLING TO FORGIVE!** *Exodus 34:5-7; Matt. 18:21-35*
  
- ❖ **It is WILLING TO ENDURE THE FAULTS OF OTHERS!**  
*Eph. 4:2; Col. 3:12-13*
  
- ❖ **It is WILLING TO LISTEN** - *Acts 26:3*

**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; James 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?

## **B. Love SERVES the needs of people “and kind”**

It refers to that which is useful or of service to others...beneficial.

- ❖ It *SHOWS COMPASSION* for the needs of others!
- ❖ It *DESIRES TO FORGIVE!* *Ephesians 4:32*
- ❖ It *DOES GOOD* to the unthankful and evil person - *Luke 6:35*
- ❖ It *SEEKS TO RELIEVE* the burdens of others - *Matt. 11:28-30*

## **2. THE CONTRASTS WITH GOD’S LOVE – 5-6 (eight negatives)**

Love does not...

### 1) ENVY – not jealous

*Gen 37:11; Acts 7:9; Gal. 5:20; James 3:14-15*

### 2) BOAST – does not brag

### 3) ARROGANT – refers to the inflation of one’s importance

*1 Cor. 4:18-19; 5:2; 8:1*

### 4) RUDE –word from the Greek: *scheme*

*Rom. 1:27; Rev. 16:15*

### 5) SELFISH – “*It does not insist on its own way*” - *Phil. 2:3-4*

### 6) IRRITABLE – easily provoked

*Acts 15:36-41; 1 Pet 2:21-23*

### 7) RESENTFUL – “*logizomai*” – count, record

We are commanded the opposite – *Phil. 4:8; Rom. 12:17-21*

### 8) GOSSIPING – “*it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth.*”

## **3. THE CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH GOD’S LOVE CONTROLS – 7 “all things”**

*Rom. 8:28; 11:36*

### **A. It reflects God’s PROTECTION – “*bears all things*”**

Refers to the roof of a house – God’s love covers all *1 Pet. 4:8*

### **B. It rests in God’s PURPOSE – “*believes all things*”**

God has a purpose and a plan for it all - *Romans 8:28*

### **C. It relies upon God’s PROMISES “*hopes all things*”**

*Rom. 8:18-25; Hebrews 6:13-20*

### **D. It reveals God’s PATIENCE – “*endures all things*”**

Patience toward circumstances – *James 1:2-4*