

The Bright Light of Love

1 Corinthians 3

Main Message in a Nutshell

There is a direct co-relation between a lowly attitude and love. High-minded, self-centered people do not naturally display a pure, sacrificial, and serving love toward others. If they appear to, it is usually to get something in return for it.

The true love of God serves others in some bright and transforming way. It pours from God into an eager heart and emanates outward in concentric rings to others. Those in the first and closest ring, such as family and friends, regularly feel the full blessing of it. But are soon amazed at the intensity and quantity of constant love leftover for others. It never diminishes...because its source is limitless. The heart that is flooded with the love of God, is God's bright light to the heart of others.

Supporting Points from the Scriptures

1. v. 1, Gifted speakers show love by leading minds to uplifting, enlightening, improving principles of truth.
2. v. 2a, Gifted minds show love by connecting knowledge and understanding to minds that seek direction.
3. v. 2b, Unfettered faith shows love by employing that faith to deliver people. cf. Lu. 10:17, 19-20.
4. v. 3a, Sacrificial provisioning shows love to those in need if there's no condescension or judgmentalism.
5. v. 3b, Sacrifice of life for devotion to God's truth shows love, only if it is done to birth validation and commitment to it in others.
6. v. 4, Love is longsuffering with others. Love blocks envy and jealousy of others. Love does not draw prideful attention to itself.
7. v. 5, Love does not display itself in a way that puzzles others. Love is not self-serving. Love resists the urge to retaliate. Love does not think devious or vengeful thoughts.
8. v. 6, Love does not lie, delude, or deceive. It rejoices in the honesty and liberty of truth.
9. v. 7, Love bears the weight of things others would shrug off. Love believes and trusts. Love hopes when others have given up. Love does not give up quickly.
10. v. 8a, Love has no capacity to fail.

Effect of the Message

There is no problem in a family, church, or community, that the bright love of God cannot heal, solve, and restore. But that bright, transforming love must first become bright and transforming in us. Let's remove the lid on our hearts today and ask God to fill us full to overflowing with His love.