

THE GIFT OF CHARITY, ITS ATTRIBUTES
I COR. 13:4-8a

Introduction:

- A. How can we recognize the gift of love?
 - 1. Is it a confessed gift?
 - 2. That is, do we have it if we say so?
 - 3. Is it a matter of say so only?

- B. The other gifts had distinguishing characteristics.
 - 1. tongues, speaking a language not studied.
 - 2. healer, healing, instantaneous and complete.
 - 3. interpretation, ability to interpret a language.

- C. The greatest gift can be recognized.
 - 1. Not a gift of the head or mouth.
 - 2. A gift of the heart.

I. THE ATTRIBUTES OF LOVE.

- A. "love suffereth long."
 - 1. suffereth = makrothumeo = to be long minded, slow to anger, to be longsuffering.

- B. "love is kind."
 - 1. kind = chresteuomai - good, gentle, benevolent, benign, actively beneficent in spite of ingratitude.

- C. "love does not envy."
 - 1. envy - zeloo - zeal, in a good sense, ardour, zeal for the cause of another.
 - 2. "love is not jealous."

- D. "love does not vaunt itself."
 - 1. vaunt = perperneuomai - to show oneself a boaster or a braggart.
 - 2. Love does not brag on itself.

- E. "love is not puffed up."
1. puffed up = phusioo - to blow, puff, pant, to inflate
2. Love does not view itself.
- F. "love does not behave unseemly."
1. behave unseemly = aschemoneo - to be void of proper deportment, to act with moral deformity.
- G. "love does not seek her own."
1. seek - zeteo - to strive to find.
2. own = eautes - of one's own self.
3. Love does not seek to have its own way.
- H. "love is not easily provoked."
1. provoked = paroksuno - to sharpen by rubbing anything, to whet, to incite, not quick to take offence, not touchy.
- I. "love thinks no evil."
1. thinks = krino - to divide, separate, to judge.
2. evil = kakos = bad, every form of evil.
3. Love keeps no score of wrongs.
- J. "love does not rejoice in evil, but in the truth."
1. rejoice = sugchairno - to rejoice in conjunction with, love does not rejoice with evil but with truth
- K. "love bears all things."
1. bears = stego - to cover closely, esp. as to keep out water, to cover over, to shelter.
2. Love is slow to expose others.
3. I Peter 4:8 "and above all things have fervent charity among yourselves, for charity shall cover the multitude of sins."
- L. "love believes all things."
1. believes = pisteuo - to be persuaded, to trust, rely on.

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2. There is no end to loves trust.

M. "love hopes all things."

1. hopes = elpizo - to expect, to hope for anything.
2. Love keeps on hoping in spite of all things.

N. "love endures all things."

1. endures = mpomeno - meno + hupo
meno - to stand fast, to stay, to abide.
2. To remain under the approach of any person or thing.
3. A brave bearing up under grave circumstances.

O. "love never faileth."

1. faileth = ekpipto - to fall away from, to fail, to fall out of.
2. Love will never be phased out, or will never fall out.

II. THE GREATEST OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS. V13

A. v13.

I Peter 4:8 "cover" = kalupto - to cover with a thing, to cover, hence to hide.

