

Series "How Great A Salvation"
"Love In The Church"
Romans 12:9-13
Study-35

Jesus was God talking and loving in the person of Christ. 1 John 4:8

**Romans: We are looking at a section that deals with
"Real Love In Action"**

Romans 1-11 Doctrine leads to **Romans 12-16** that deals with **Duty**
Romans 12:1-21 Christian Life As A Sacrifice To God:

Romans 12:1 spiritual service of worship - *rational ("logical")* intelligent

Romans 12:9-21 How to love those in the Church and World:
Romans 12:9

Romans 12:9-13 How to love those in the Church:
Romans 12:14-21 How to love those in the World:

Thought Of Our Passage: "Through The Renewing Of Our Minds, The Believer Has Been Transformed With The Ability To Love Like Jesus"

12 Characteristics Of God's Love In The Church:

Romans 12:9 Let love be without hypocrisy.

The Context – Paul has spoken about how the dedication of ourselves to God is the logical response to what God has done for us through salvation.

Romans 12:2 The believer's thinking is radically changed,

Romans 12:3-8 Thinking Rightly About Ourselves:

Thinking Rightly About Others: Thinking Rightly About God's Gifts to His Church:

1 Corinthians 12:31 more excellent way. (Love) Now in Romans, the same!

Let love be

The believer's thinking in regard to love **the renewing of your mind,**

Love - The word *Agape* – which is the highest love known to man. It is a divine love.

This is a deliberate love. It is a love that is based on a choice. It is not based on performance but on choice. We choose to love. This shows up in our relationships; in marriage, family and friends. **John 13:35; 1 John 4:7-21**

1. Verse 9 – Love’s Purity:

hypocrisy – or sincere - Latin word sincere, "without wax"
That there is to be no mixture.

Jesus calls the religious leaders "Hypocrites" 7 times: **Matthew 23:13**

hypocrisy – Greek hypocrite *"to speak from underneath"* used of the Greek actors that would wear masks in plays and *"their voices would come from underneath the mask, without play-acting or pretending, to be genuine"*

Our love as believers is to be unmixed, it is not to be playing a part, it is to be genuine. **1 Timothy 1:5**

Judas Iscariot Was The Ultimate Traitor: **Luke 22:47-48; Romans 5:5**

"Let us have no imitation Christian love. Let us have a genuine break with evil and real devotion to good." – JB Phillips

2. Verse 9 – Love’s Morality:

Abhor what is evil; the word **Abhor** - *"to cast away, to hate and reject, despise, loathe"* **what is evil**,
When you are speaking about love, you must also speak about hate.

evil, Hating what God hates is to love. **Love is not soft on evil.**

cling *"to glue, stick together, to cleave"* **to what is good.** That which is good we need to hold onto. **Support those doing the right thing!**

3. Verse 10 – Love’s Affection:

Romans 12:10 Be devoted to one another in brotherly love;
Literal translation *"Be devoted with warm family affection to one another in brotherly love"*

devoted – *"cherishing, affectionate to one’s kind"*

to one another in brotherly love;

"To dwell above, with saints in love,
That will indeed be glory;
To dwell below with saints we know,
Well, that’s a different story!"

4. Verse 10 – Love’s Preference:

give preference to one another in honor;
We should find favor in respecting each other.

This is not natural, but through the new birth there should be a conviction about wanting to think of others. **Philippians 2:2-4**

5. Verse 11 – Love’s Zeal:

Romans 12:11 not lagging behind in diligence, "*never slack in earnestness, not hesitant in zeal*" the context was the exercise of gifts God has given to each believer. This is spiritual activities. **Romans 12:8 with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.**

2 Timothy 1:6-7; Hebrews 12:3

6. Verse 11 – Love’s Aflame:

fervent in spirit, - The word **fervent** means "*burning, at the boiling point, enthusiasm, aglow through the Holy Spirit*" We need to be on fire for Him. We should do our best for the Lord. **1 Peter 4:8**

Apollos - **Acts 18:25**

Church of Laodicea - **Revelation 3:15-16**

7. Verse 11 – Love’s Service To God:

serving the Lord; Note what was said, **not lagging behind in diligence, fervent in spirit**, - It is our service to the Lord! **It’s all priority, we are lazy, we are not on fire, because God is not the priority.**

Where has God placed us?

8. Verse 12 – Love’s Endurance:

Romans 12:12 rejoicing in hope,

Hope – "*a sure expectation of a future event*" It is a sure thing. We may not see it but it will surely come to pass. We can rejoice in it.

Romans 5:4-5; 1 Corinthians 13:7-8

9. Verse 12 – Love’s Triumph:

persevering in tribulation,

tribulation - Latin - "*Tribulum*" Timber Heavy - with spikes in it. Drawn over wheat to separate grain from the chaff. "**Tribulum**" - Separator

Chaff – Sinfulness, Selfishness and Flesh

Grain - Spirit of God can live through our lives - new nature - coming out.

Jesus promised tribulation **John 16:33**

Romans 5:3 knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance;

It's good - rejoice purifies us

10. Verse 12 – Love’s Empowerment:

devoted to prayer, *“to stick diligently with something and attend to it”* speaks of our persistence to prayer.

Note The Context - persevering in tribulation, devoted to prayer,

Colossians 4:2 Devote yourselves to prayer,

11. Verse 13 – Love’s Care:

Romans 12:13 contributing the word *Koinonia* – *“to share with others, communicate, distribute, be partaker”*

to the needs - important word, it does not say, “wants, or desires, likes, pleasures”

of the saints, Galatians 6:10

Sharing & Caring:

12. Verse 13 – Love’s Hospitality:

practicing hospitality. This word **practicing** – *Speaks of “pursuit, chasing, strenuous pursuit”*

hospitality – *“A home can never be happy when it is selfish! Christianity is the religion of open hand, open heart, open door!”*

1 Peter 4:9 God is concerned about both Actions and Attitudes.

Abraham practiced this in **Genesis 18; Hebrews 13:1-2**

Matthew 25:35

Application:

1. Our Love As Believers Is Not To Be Hypocritical, It Is To Be Unmixed, It Is Not To Be Play Acting But Genuine.
2. Love Abhors What Is Evil And Clings To What Is Good. Love Is Not Soft On Evil But Is In Support Of What Is Good.
3. Love Rejoices In Hope. Perseveres In Tribulation. The Christian Does Not Rebel In Tribulations, Knowing That God Is Using It To Purify Us; God Is In Control.
4. Love Practically Cares. Love Contributes To The Needs Of The Saints. Love Practices Hospitality.