Characteristics Of Love 1 Corinthians 13:4-7

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- Love suffers long ...
 Slowness to anger or passion; patient (Hebrews 10:36; James 5:11)
- forbearance and endurance of wrong. • To be patient in bearing the offences and injuries of others; to be mild and slow in avenging; to be longsuffering, slow to anger, slow to punish 1 Corinthians 13:4 (Thayer)

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• Love suffers long ...

Overcoming the natural impulse to just displeasure. Ephesians 4:1-3; cf.1 Peter 2:23; Colossians 3:12-13 • Here we see the state of mind which can endure trials when oppression comes. -cf. Revelation 2:2-3 Church at Ephesus. -cf. Revelation 2:18-19 Church at Thyatira.

Love is kind.

- Kindness denotes good-nature, gentle, tender, affectionate.
- Love is not harsh, sour, or ill-natured. Ephesians 4:31-32.
- Politeness and courteousness are results of love.

Love envies not.

- Envy and jealousy are related. To envy is to feel uneasiness, or discontent at the sight of another's accomplishments; whether it be learning, wealth, beauty, reputation, or success.
- This was especially true among these Corinthians.
 Proverbs 14:30, "Envy is the rottenness of the bones."
- Paul lists *envyings* among the works of the flesh (Galatians 5:19) and says that *"They who practice* such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God."
- Peter said, we should "Put away ... all malice and all guile and hypocrisies and envies, and all evil speaking ..." 1 Peter 2:1.

- Love vaunteth not itself. ... does not thrust itself forward, nor take the higher seats in the synagogue (cf. Luke 14:7-11) "Parading ones superiority unto others."
 - Here the thought is expressed of boasting or vaunting of one's own excellencies or endowments. Proverbs 27:2
 - In Romans 1:30 Paul lists boasting in a number of sins, those who practice such things are worthy of death.
 - No one who loves another is disposed to boast of his own qualities over them.

- Is not puffed up ... Inflated opinions of one's self (cf. Romans 12:3)
 - This differs from vaunting ones self in that it deals with the very feeling itself of pride and self-esteem ... the other deals with the expression.
 - Pride and vanity is ugly.
 Proverbs 8:13, "Pride, and arrogancy ... do I hate."

Proverbs 16:5, "Every one that is proud in heart is an abomination to the Lord."

Does not behave itself unseemly ...

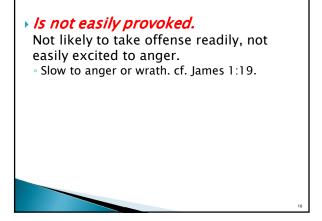
- He is careful to avoid every form of evil.
- Love would cause one to conduct himself properly and honorably, above reproach.
- How great it would be if all Christians would manifest this one characteristic of love.
- Language, morals, dress, improper allusions, and implications. Ephesians 4:29; 1 Timothy 2:9

Seeketh not her own ...

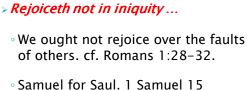
One who has the proper love for God and for others IS NOT SELFISH.

1 Corinthians 10:24, "Let no man seek his own, but each his neighbor's good." ASV Galatians 6:2, "Bear ye one another's burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ." Philippians 2:2-4, "Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others."
Philippians 2:19-21- Example of Timothy.

cf. Paul 1 Corinthians 9:22-23; 10:33; 2 Corinthians 7:3; Romans 15:2 Seek the welfare of others with self-denial, personal sacrifice, and toil.



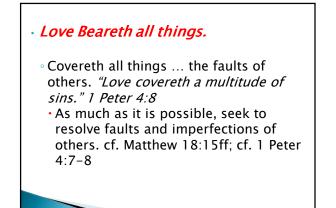
Thinketh no evil. Does not surmise evil and put the worst construction on the acts of others. Does not attribute evil motives to others. This means we ought to put the best possible construction on the motives and conduct of others. One who loves as he should will not be malicious or disposed to faultfinding. "If you can't say anything good ... don't say anything."

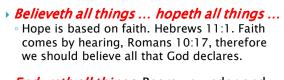


 Samuel for Saul. 1 Samuel 15
 Paul for the Jewish brethren. Romans 9:1–3; 10:1.

> Rejoiceth in the truth.

- cf. 2 John 4; cf. Ephesians 4:15: 3 John 12 cf. Proverbs 17:15, "He that justifieth the wicked and he that condemneth the righteous. Both of them alike are an abomination to Jehovah."
- Do not rejoice in the error of a brother, but rejoice in his virtues. cf. Philippians 1:12-18. (cf. Galatians 5:15).
- Gossip ... cf. those who rejoice in iniquity. James 3:5ff





- Endureth all things. Bears up under and does not murmur. cf. Philippians 2:12ff.
- Conclusion: *Love never fails* ... Verse 8.