
The Lord God's Ekklesia

Part 4 – A People that Loves Others with God's Love

EKKLESIA
THE CALLED OUT ONES

John 13:34-35

John 13:34 - NIV

“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.

John 13:35

By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”

Biblical Definition of Love



Background to the Text

- John 1-12 focuses on Jesus' public ministry.
- John 13-17 focuses on Jesus' private ministry to those who truly believe. In these chapters Jesus is alone with His disciples.

Background to the Text

- Jesus knew that the hour of His glorification was approaching fast and that He would be returning to the Father soon.
- Jesus washed His disciples' feet, including the feet of Judas Iscariot, His betrayer.

Principle #1

Any attempt to define the term *love* without an objective grounding in the living and holy Triune God and His Word, is simply a twisted manifestation of severely limited human minds and spirits.

What *Love* is not:

- **It is not a narrowly defined list of actions.**
- **It is not being someone's slave, doormat, or punching bag.**
- **It is not an obligation one carries out with a cold soul.**
- **It is not self-serving.**

What *Love* is not:

- It is not strictly an emotion.
- It is not strictly a feeling.
- It is not something that should only be understood by your actions without ever saying it.
- It is not something that expresses itself cruelly.

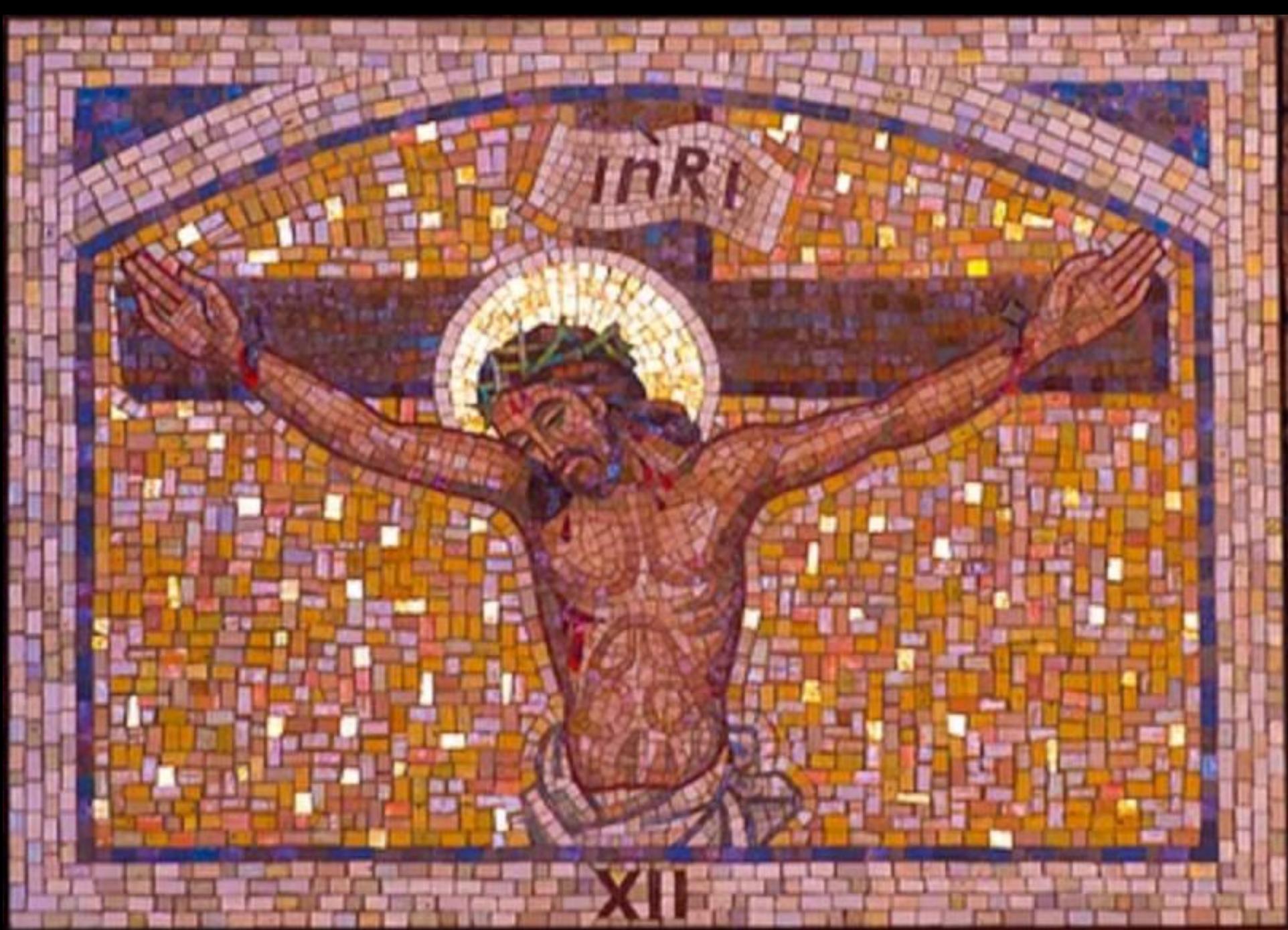
What *Love* is not:

- It is not something that is genuine simply because one says the words.
- It is not something that you will always feel joyous about.
- It has never been and never will be properly defined by Hollywood.

Christlike Love *defined*

Genuine Christlike love as it is lived out in a relationship with someone is the consummation of one's attitude, decision, feeling, and emotion that expresses itself in appropriate action.





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Principle #2

The ekklesia of God is commanded to genuinely love one another with God's love, regardless of how we feel.

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“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.



Principle #3

**You can't give away what you
don't have.**

John 13:34

“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.

Unless you have had a profound experience of God's supernatural love for you and unless you are constantly and consistently experiencing God's love for you, it will be impossible for you to genuinely love others with God's love.



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God's unconditional love meets our deepest needs, and it is meant to touch every aspect of our being. If we allow God to fill us up with the power of His love, we then become empowered and enabled to love one another with His love, regardless of the person, situation, or circumstance.

Principle #4

Receiving, experiencing, growing in, sharing, and giving away God's love to one another is the most foundational, essential, and central reality of our Christian faith.

1 Corinthians 13:1

If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal.

1 Corinthians 13:2

If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing.

1 Corinthians 13:3

If I give all I possess to the poor
and give over my body to
hardship that I may boast, but do
not have love, I gain nothing.

1 Corinthians 13:4

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud.

1 Corinthians 13:5

It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.

1 Corinthians 13:6

Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth.

1 Corinthians 13:7-8a

**It always protects, always trusts,
always hopes, always perseveres.**

Love never fails...

Principle #5

When the first casualty of our zeal for God's truth is God's love, we cannot bring honor or glory to our Master.

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Principle #6

To love others the way Christ loved us, requires that we treat others as we would treat Christ.

Matthew 25:31

“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his glorious throne.

Matthew 25:32

All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats.

Matthew 25:33

He will put the sheep on his right
and the goats on his left.

Matthew 25:34

“Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world.

Matthew 25:35

For I was hungry and you gave me
something to eat, I was thirsty
and you gave me something to
drink, I was a stranger and you
invited me in,

Matthew 25:36

I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.'

Matthew 25:37

“Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink?

Matthew 25:38

When did we see you a stranger
and invite you in, or needing
clothes and clothe you?

Matthew 25:39

When did we see you sick or in
prison and go to visit you?’

Matthew 25:40

“The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’

Matthew 25:41

“Then he will say to those on his left, ‘Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels.

Matthew 25:42

For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink,

Matthew 25:43

I was a stranger and you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me.'

Matthew 25:44

“They also will answer, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?’

Matthew 25:45

“He will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.’

Matthew 25:46

“Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life.”

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