

12-11-1952

# The Greatest of These-Love

Wyatt Sawyer

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.harding.edu/wyatt-sawyer-sermons>

---

## Recommended Citation

Sawyer, W. (1952). The Greatest of These-Love. Retrieved from <https://scholarworks.harding.edu/wyatt-sawyer-sermons/219>

This Sermon is brought to you for free and open access by the Wyatt Sawyer Archive at Scholar Works at Harding. It has been accepted for inclusion in Wyatt Sawyer Sermon Outlines by an authorized administrator of Scholar Works at Harding. For more information, please contact [scholarworks@harding.edu](mailto:scholarworks@harding.edu).



## I Corinthians 13:1-13

See #701

Happiness: State of well-being; God's desire for mankind.

INT: Scope is broad: Within, in home, work, play and worship.

Secret of success is in following His instructions.

God extended His greatest power to this end. John 3:16.

I. IMPORTANCE OF LOVE SEEN IN ROLL IT PLAYS IN LIFE. Vs. 1-3.

A. No one is beautiful without love.

1. Wisest of men hollow without love. No tune. Noise. 1
2. Speech of angels puny. Tinkle from cymbal. Weak. 1
3. Only antidote for the ugliness within us, If applied.
  - a. Test mother's love? Pleasures sacrifice for home.
  - b. Test husband's love? Pleasures deny self for wife.
  - c. Test children's love? Pleasures forfeit for parents
  - d. Test Christian's love? Pleasures -to please God.
4. Can you imagine beautiful Christian begrudging the time, money and pleasures given up? II Cor. 8:1-5.

a. Ill. True spirit in child's love. Knt. 422 Crazy..

B. No one is great without love. No one!

1. Faith without love is dead. Move mountains. Ugly!! 2
2. Gift without giver is dead. Gave lots! Why? Ugly!! 3
3. Martyrdom without cause is dead. Died! Why? Ugly!! 3

C. Greatness of deed judged by love behind it. Lk. 21:1-3.

II. LOVE HAS NINE NEGATIVE QUALITIES. Test your love by these

A. If your love is genuine you will NOT do these things.

1. Envy. Never grieves over success of others. Glad. Big.
2. Vaunteth not. Never parades own superiority. Timid.
3. Puffed up. Never exaggerates his merits. Honest.
4. Misbehave. Never acts contrary to the occasion. Wise.
5. Seek her own. Never an introvert. I Cor. 10:24. Altru.
6. Provoked. Not hypersensitive; Looking for quarrel.
7. Think evil. Sees best side. Gives benefit of doubt.
8. Rejoice in iniquity. No sympathy for sin or rewards.
9. Fails. Never dies no matter how badly injured.

B. Its positive qualities shows why it will never cease.

III. LOVE HAS SEVEN POSITIVE QUALITIES. Put your love to test.

A. If your love is genuine you WILL do these things.

1. Suffer long. All injury cannot deplete it. Never hate!
2. Is kind. Gentle to all under all circumstances.
  - a. An infidel answered. Knt. 398. Charles Bradlaugh.
3. Rejoices in truth. Joyful at every victory of truth.
4. Bears all things. Does not spread ill-news. Covers.
5. Believes. Not gullible, keeps faith in men forever.
6. Hopes. Never closes heart. Prays for change. Expects.
7. Endures all. Dies having never thought harm to any.

IV. LOVE IS COMPARED TO ALL OTHER GIFTS. Vs. 8 - 13.

A. All else planned to serve temporary purpose.

1. Prophecies. Predictions fulfilled, lose purpose. 8
2. Tongues. Unnecessary with Bible. Or in Heaven. 8
3. Knowledge. Heaven an entirely new experience. 8
4. Faith. Temporary. Time turn faith into sight. 13
5. Hope. Temporary. Promises fulfilled are not hope. 13

B. Love will not vanish with time but be increased. 13

1. Love for God in Heaven will be perfect. Rev. 15:3.
2. Love for Christ will find expression. Phil. 2:9-10
3. Love for one who led you to Christ increased.

C. Only those who love God and man will ascend. **MATT 22:37**

39

INV: If you feel any love toward Christ, now is the time to express it. Expressed best in obedience. B-R-C-B.

Erring: Love declined? Strengthen it today. R-P.