

The Way of Love is Eternal - 1 Corinthians 13:8-13

“What does it mean to be truly spiritual?” is not a new question. It’s a question Holy Spirit answers in 1 Corinthians 13. In verses 1-3, Holy Spirit reveals that ἀγάπη-love is the Essential, indispensable, Evidence of Authentic Spirituality. Verses 4-7 describe how ἀγάπη-love is Extraordinarily expressed. Verses 8-13 affirm ἀγάπη-love as Eternal.

“Eternal”

2 Corinthians 4:18

Isaiah 40:18,28

The Way of Love is Eternal = ἀγάπη-love is _____.

ἀγάπη-love is _____

vs 8 “never falls away”:

e.g., Acts 12:7

ἀγάπη-love is committed investment of personal resources for the good of others regardless of the cost.

vs 13 “remain”:

e.g., Hebrews 7:24

e.g., 1 Peter 1:23-25

e.g., 2 Corinthians 9:9

ἀγάπη-love is _____

vs 13 “greatest” because ἀγάπη-love is:

• _____

ἔρος and φιλία are _____

ἀγάπη is _____

• _____

vs 10 “complete”

e.g., James 1:4

e.g., 1 John 4:18

e.g., Ephesians 4:12-13



Holy Spirit's Grace Gifts are crucial tools our Lord uses to _____
His churches, but they are not the _____ stage.
They are _____. vss 9 & 10

2 Analogies:

vs 11 like _____ in contrast to _____

vs 12 like a _____ rather than _____

NOTE: Faith and Hope are Endless (vs 13 "remain") but not _____
ἀγάπη-love is _____

• _____

1 Corinthians 12:31-13:3

Matthew 22:35-40

1 John 4:7-21

So, 1 Corinthians 14:1, 16:14
And remember Galatians 5:22

Applying These Truths

1. How might you respond to someone who says, "The Bible isn't meant to be taken literally. For example, it says, 'Love never fails.' But people stop loving all the time!"?
2. When and where have you seen evidence that Love is "the greatest"?
3. Imagine you heard someone say, "We're most like God when we love." Would you probably agree with them? If yes, why? If not, why not?
4. How might you respond if you heard someone say, "Love like 1 Corinthians 13 isn't humanly possible!"?
5. What will you do to engage with Holy Spirit's work to make the Truths revealed in 1 Corinthians 13 real in your life?
6. Whom will you request to support you as you seek to engage with Holy Spirit's work to make these Truths real in your life?
7. Whom do you know who needs to experience Love like it's described in 1 Corinthians 13?