

What's Love Got To Do With It?

1 Thessalonians 3:11-12

Read 1 Thessalonians 3:11-13

1.) Paul Prays That the Lord Would Direct His Path Back to the Thessalonians

Read 1 Thessalonians 3:11

2.) Paul Prays That Their Love Would Abound and Increase

A.) God is Love

... God is love. (1 John 4:8)

In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him. In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son [to be] the propitiation for our sins. (1 John 4:9-10)

By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down [our] lives for the brethren. (1 John 3:16)

B.) Love is a Defining Characteristic of Every Believer

We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love the brethren. He who does not love [his] brother abides in death. (1 John 3:14)

"He who does not love does not know God... If we love one another, God abides in us, and His love has been perfected in us." (1 John 4:8, 12)

"By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another" (John 13:35)

C.) Believers are Commanded to Love

"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another." (John 13:34)

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.'
38 *This is the first and great commandment. **39** And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' (Matthew 22:37-39).*

*"Owe no one anything except to love one another, for he who loves another has fulfilled the law. **9** For the commandments, "You shall not commit adultery," "You shall not murder," "You shall not steal," "You shall not bear false witness," "You shall not covet," and if there is any other commandment, are all summed up in this saying, namely, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself. **10** Love does no harm to a neighbor therefore love is the fulfillment of the law" (Romans 13:8-10)*

i.) Who? One Another and All

"But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8)

ii.) How? Just as we do you

D.) The Source of Our Love is the Lord

"...taught by God to love one another" (1 Thessalonians 4:9)

"Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another." (1 John 4:11)

*"For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; or if we are of sound mind, it is for you. **14** For the love of Christ compels us, because we judge thus: that if One died for all, then all died" (2 Corinthians 5:13-14)*

"...the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us." (Romans 5:5)

*"For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, **39** nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 8:38-39)*