

WCBC ENGLISH WORSHIP SERVICE - FEB 10, 2019

TOPIC: "The Greatest Of These Is Love"

TEXT: I Corinthians 13:1-13

INTRO: Three words for love in the Greek language:

1. "eros"- speaks of sensual love
2. "phileo" - speaks of love for one's family/friends
3. "agape"- speaks of God's divine love - Rom. 5:5

I. THE SUPREMACY OF LOVE: vv.1-3

Note: In verses 1-3, agape love is contrasted to seven good qualities and/or virtues, and it is seen to be greater than them all!

1. Love is contrasted with eloquence - v.1
 - Dr. Peter Masters!
 2. Love is contrasted with prophecy - v.2
 3. Love is contrasted with understanding mysteries - v.2
 4. Love is contrasted with knowledge - v.2
 - Jeopardy's Greatest!
 5. Love is contrasted with faith - v.3
 - Man who called-in sick!
 6. Love is contrasted with almsgiving - v.3
 7. Love is contrasted with sacrifice & devotion-v.3
- Note: All of the above are noteworthy and noble, but without agape love, they are useless. They are only so much noise, and activity, and excitement!

II. THE CHARACTER OF LOVE: vv.4-7

1. Love is patient and kind - v.4
2. Love is not envious - v.4
3. Love is not boastful or proud - v.4
 - PRIDE is self-centeredness, or the "I' Syndrome." The letter I is in the center of the word, PRIDE - cf. Isaiah 14:13-14 = Satan's 5 "I Wills!"
4. Love is not rude or self-seeking - v.5
 - 3 Magic Words/Basement Mounted WallSign!
5. Love is not easily angered nor it keeps a record

of wrongs - v.5

6. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth - v.6

- Osang!

7. Love gives victory - v.7

III. THE ETERNITY OF LOVE: v.7

Prophecies shall be done away with, tongues shall cease, knowledge shall vanish away, etc., but God's love remains. It is eternal! No wonder then I Cor. 14:1 instructs us to, "Follow the way of love (i.e., agape love)..."

CONCLUSION: Mounted Wall Sign!

A Brief History Of Valentine's Day!

Valentine's Day is a festival commemorating the martyrdom of "St. Valentine" on February 14, 270 A.D. Nothing for certain is known of his life except that Valentine was a priest in Rome, and was martyred under the persecution of Emperor Claudius II who reigned in 268-270 A.D. After his death, Valentine's Day was celebrated as early as the 7th century, but by the 14th century, its religious significance was overshadowed by the nonreligious customs still associated with the day.

Acceptance of St. Valentine as patron saint of lovers appears to be accidental. The most reasonable of several theories is the medieval European belief that birds began to mate on February 14. This notion presumably suggested that boys and girls should choose lovers, and exchange gifts. Then the word "valentine" was applied to both persons and presents!

Verse For Today

"This is how God showed His love among us: He sent His one and only Son into the world that we might live through Him!"
- I John 4:9

Food For Thought

"To marry a woman for her beauty is like buying an old house with a new paint!" - Paul L. Tan

