

## THINGS WE MUST LOVE 256

TEXT: Phil. 1:9-11 And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in knowledge and all discernment, that you may approve the things that are excellent, that you may be sincere and without offense till the day of Christ, being filled with the fruits of righteousness which are by Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

### INTRODUCTION:

- A. Philippians is called by some "Paul's, love letter to the church."
- B. This church received the least criticism-yet admonished to grow in love.
- C. It is good first for us to know the ingredients of love.

1. 1 Jn. 4:16 And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him.

2. 1 Cor. 13:1-8 (ESV) If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing. Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away.

### BODY: THINGS WE MUST LOVE.

#### I. WE MUST LOVE THE FATHER.

- A. Matt. 22:37
- B. He loved us first.
  - 1. 1 Jn. 4:19.
  - 2. Jas. 1:17.
- C. The test of our love for Him is obedience- 1 Jn. 5:3.

#### II. WE MUST LOVE JESUS CHRIST.

- A. "Do you Love The Lord"- 341.

B. Matt. 10:37.

C. The test of love is obedience:

1. Jn. 14:15.

2. Jn. 21:15-17.

E. Keeping all His commandments part of the time is not love.

F. Keeping part of His commandments all the time is not love.

G. What happens if we don't love Him.

1. 1 Cor. 16:22.

2. 2 Tim. 4:6-8.

3. Jas. 1:12.

### III. WE MUST LOVE THE CHURCH.

A. Eph. 5:25.

B. Matt. 16:18.

C. Acts 20:28.

D. We must love it enough to give our service:

1. Heb. 10:25.

2. Matt. 18:20.

3. 1 Cor. 15:58.

E. Public contradictions shows a lack of love.

### IV. WE MUST LOVE THE TRUTH

A. 2 Thess. 2:10.

B. What attitude will we have? GOOD.

1. Jn. 5:39.

2. Acts 17:11.

3. Rom. 10:17.

4. Rev. 22:14.

C. Compromising attitudes among the brethren shows a lack of love for the truth.

1. Jude 3.

2. Titus 1:9-11.

3. Eph. 5:11.

#### V. WE MUST LOVE ONE ANOTHER.

A. Rom. 12:10.

B. Heb. 13:1.

C. We have a standard.

1. 1 Thess. 4:9

2. Jn. 15:12-13

E. We love in spite of their attitude.

F. Brotherly love is greater than the essentials to salvation- 1 Cor. 13:13.

#### VI. WE MUST LOVE THE LOST.

A. How much does God love the lost- Jn. 3:16.

B. How much does Christ love the lost- Lk. 19:10.

C. How much should we love the lost?

1. Phil. 2:5.

2. As much as Paul-

a. Rom. 9:1-3.

b. Rom. 10:1.

#### CONCLUSION:

A. We are to love these more and more.

- B. Think of the blessings it will bring.
- C. Do you love the Lord enough to obey HIM?