

## THE KINGDOM LIFE: THE PERSON TO LOVE AND GLORIFY

I Cor 16:19-24  
October 9, 2011

**INTRODUCTION:** We have talked about *Possessions* we wish to give, *Places* we wish to go, *People* we need to grow, and now the *Person* we wish to glorify. The Apostle Paul sends a stinging letter to the Corinthians and after giving words of warning, rebuke, and at times, speaking with righteous anger, he closes with words of Christ's grace and his love. He has indeed spoken the "truth in love." (Eph 4:15), and honor the words of Solomon in Prov 27:5-6.

Proverbs 27:5-6, "Open rebuke is better than love carefully concealed.  
Faithful are the wounds of a friend, But the kisses of an enemy are deceitful."

### I. WORDS OF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT. 19

"churches of Asia" – speaks of unity

"to great" – genuine affection

"Aquila and Priscilla"

#### 1. In Corinth:

Acts 18:1-3, "After these things Paul departed from Athens and went to Corinth. And he found a certain Jew named Aquila, born in Pontus, who had recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla (because Claudius had commanded all the Jews to depart from Rome); and he came to them. So, because he was of the same trade, he stayed with them and worked; for by occupation they were tentmakers."

Note the providence of God, to get them out of Rome to Corinth in order to serve.

1 Kings 17:9, "Arise, go to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and dwell there. See, I have commanded a widow there to provide for you."

The Lord in His providence makes provision before we are even aware of our need. He is to be *glorified!*

This Christ-honoring couple could serve as a tribute to every couple that serves the Lord as influential teams making significant differences where they minister.

#### 2. In Ephesus: Church in their home (Acts 18:18-19);

1 Cor 16:19, "church that is in their house"

#### 3. In Rome: Church in their home (Romans 16:5a)

Romans 16:3-4, "Greet Priscilla and Aquila, my fellow workers in Christ Jesus, who risked their own necks for my life, to whom not only I give thanks, but also all the churches of the Gentiles."

Paul uses the closing of this letter to illustrate the teaching of **1 Cor 16:18** by acknowledging Aquila and Priscilla and showing his personal respect. Paul here magnifies the VIRTUE OF HOSPITALITY; loving strangers.

## II. WORDS OF AFFECTION. 20

**“holy kiss”** – speaks of genuine and spontaneous expression of brotherly and sisterly love. Kiss of holiness; men kissing men and women kissing women. This serves as a challenge and reminder to be demonstrative in their expression of love for one another. In the first century this served as the common mode of greeting. Today, shake hands with one another.

**EXAMPLE:** Robert Steele on platform with me in Ukraine church. They kiss on the lips; men with men and women with women.

Paul tells the church to show affection outwardly.

## III. WORDS ABOUT AUTOGRAPH. 21

Corinthians was written with the assistance of a secretary or scribe, however, the concluding paragraph he had not dictated but written with his own hand in order to authenticate the message as genuinely his. His handwriting was probably recognizable. This was his postscript.

## IV. WORDS OF ADMONITION. 22

### Warnings and Encouragement

#### NOTE:

#### A. WORDS OF AFFECTION. 22

##### **“If anyone does not love the Lord Jesus Christ”** –

Paul uses the Greek word **phileo** for love – tender affection; not the strong word for love – **agape**: supreme love. This **phileo**-type love is never commanded to be given to God. An implication of this verse, however, is that such minimal affection is an element of the love that is acceptable to God. When Jesus asked Peter (**John 21**) if he loved Him, he used **agape** twice and Peter responded with **phileo**. The third time, Jesus changed to **phileo** and Peter responded with **phileo**. When Peter answered yes, Jesus accepted that love. Peter did not claim agape, but even his kind affection evidenced his trust in Jesus. Paul’s choice of words in **1 Cor 16:22** flowed from his emphasis on affection.

**Obvious Truth:** If a person does not love the Lord with tender affection, then he obviously has no supreme love for Him.

## B. WORDS OF ADMONITION. 22

**“let him be accursed”** – (anathema); that which is set aside for destruction; devoted to destruction.

**Paige Patterson** had a great word here: *“This does not constitute a command for any sort of action on the part of the church with regard to those who do not love the Lord. It is merely an observation of the state that exists. Those who do not love the Lord will be set aside for destruction.”*

**A.T. Robertson**, *“The word seems a bit harsh to us, but the refusal to love Christ (phileo) on the part of a nominal Christian deserves anathema.”*

**Kent Hughes**, *“The basis of his warning was a lack of love (phileo) for Jesus Christ. Such absence is a sign that a person has never been regenerated.”*

**1 John 3:14, “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 4:19-20, “We love Him because He first loved us. If someone says, ‘I love God,’ and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen?”**

### 1. Paul Was A Man of Tenderness.

**Romans 9:1-3, “I tell the truth in Christ, I am not lying, my conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Spirit, that I have great sorrow and continual grief in my heart. For I could wish that I myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my countrymen according to the flesh”**

### 2. Paul Was A Man of Truthfulness.

**1 Corinthians 16:22, “If anyone does not love the Lord Jesus Christ, let him be accursed. O Lord, come!”**

**Galatians 1:6-9, “I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel, which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ. But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed. As we have said before, so now I say again, if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed.”**

Again, Paul is not invoking a curse in this life on the Christ rejecter. But if a person does not love the Lord, there is no hope for him at last; this serves as a sad and solemn statement of fact.

Say it a different way:

**John 3:36, “He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him.”**

OR

**John 3:16-19, “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.**

**He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.”**

**a. An Indictment of Judgment.**

Does it seem harsh?  
Listen to Jesus speak of Himself

**John 5:31, “If I bear witness of Myself, My witness is not true.”**

“true” – valid as testimony

**John 5:39, “You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me.”**

We need a Gospel-centered testimony of salvation

Jesus had the Father’s witness     **John 5:37**  
Jesus had Moses’ witness       **John 5:46**  
Jesus had the Scriptures’ witness   **John 5:39**

NOTE ALSO:

**2 Corinthians 13:5, “Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you? — unless indeed you are disqualified.”**

“disqualified” – do not stand the test

**b. An Invitation for Jesus.**

**“O Lord, come!” - mar - Lord  
                          an - our  
                          atha - come**

The tense is debated. Can be *praise* – our Lord has come; incarnation; hope changes everything. Can be *prayer* – our Lord, come. Or, can be *prophecy* – our Lord is coming. It's Paul's watchword; reminds us that the Bible is full of "lively hope" that the Lord has come, is here, and is coming again.

**NOTE:**

**1 Thess 4:14-18**

**James 5:7-9**

**Phil 4:5**

**Rev. 1:7; 3:11; 22:20**

**Maranatha** – contains an implied invitation to those lost church members to receive Christ before God takes them away and the opportunity for salvation is forever gone.

**Verse 22** calls for division of humanity based upon love for Jesus. If a person does not love Jesus, they will ultimately be set aside for destruction.

**V. WORDS OF AFFIRMATION. 23-24**

Paul spoke the words of "**truth in love**"

**A. POWERFUL TRUTH. 23**

Words about our Lord; he commended them to His grace

**B. PERSONAL TRUTH. 24**

Words about his love; reminder of **1 Cor 13**. This love was the result of His grace.

**"Have not love, I am nothing"** 1 Cor 13:20