



Word Study on "Love"

Love - desiring good for someone else and doing something about it

Please read 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 and answer the following questions:

[A] Without what are angelic languages just noise? _____

[B] If we perform great miracles but are still nothing, what is missing? _____

[C] What keeps great sacrifice from being spiritually profitable? _____

[D] What is patient and kind? _____

[E] What is not provoked? _____

[F] What rejoices in truth? _____

[G] What endures all things? _____

[H] What never fails? _____

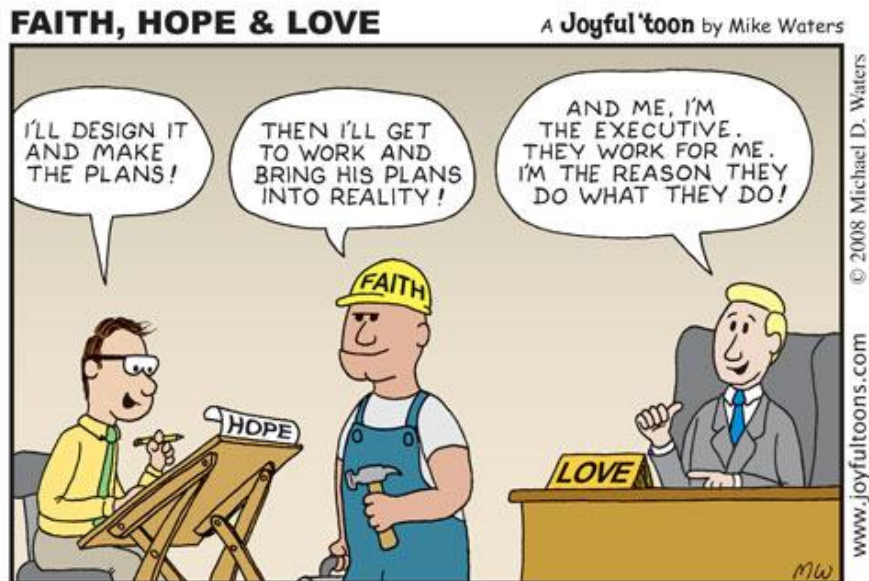
[I] When will the partial or incomplete be done away with? _____

[J] What do we do when we become mature? _____

[K] In the end, how much will we know? _____

[L] 1st Corinthians 13:13 says that love is greater than faith and hope. Why do you think love is the greatest?

Think & Pray _____



And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.
- 1 CORINTHIANS 13:13 NIV

----- "LOVE" ANSWERS -----

- [A] Without what are angelic languages just noise? Love 1Co 13:1
- [B] If we perform great miracles but are still nothing, what is missing? Love 1Co 13:2
- [C] What keeps great sacrifice from being spiritually profitable? Lack of love 1Co 13:3
- [D] What is patient and kind? Love 1Co 13:4
- [E] What is not provoked? Love 1Co 13:5
- [F] What rejoices in truth? Love 1Co 13:6
- [G] What endures all things? Love 1Co 13:7
- [H] What never fails? Love 1Co 13:8
- [I] When will the partial or incomplete be done away with? When the perfect comes 1Co 13:10
- [J] What do we do when we become mature? Do away with childish things 1Co 13:11
- [K] In the end, how much will we know? We will know fully 1Co 13:12

- [L] God's word says love is the greatest so it is. The Bible is not explicit as to why, so anything we say is speculation. In my opinion, when we reach heaven our hopes will be realized and our faith fulfilled. Faith and hope will no longer be necessary, but love will be. Similarly before the creation God loved us enough to bring us into existence, so love existed before faith and hope. In fact it is His love that gives birth to our faith and hope. Perhaps the best reason is what it says in 1st John 4:16, "God is love."

For further thought:

- (m) Is love an action or a feeling?

- (n) What could you add to this list of examples of love in action:
 - Giving gifts
 - Sharing food
 - Encouraging words
 - Sympathetic listening ears
 - Intercessory prayer and corporate prayer
 - Protecting a neighbor's person, property, and reputation as you would your own
 - Worshiping God, especially in fellowship with other believers
 - Reading and studying His word, especially in fellowship with other believers
 - Spending your time with other believersWhich of these have you already put into action and which ones are you going to?

- (o) Please read and discuss 1 John 4:7-21.

- (p) What does the phrase "God is love" in 1 John 4:16 mean?

- (q) Is it optional for followers of God to love others? How do you know?

- (r) Use a concordance to look up the word "love" in the Bible. It appears almost 500 times. Read and discuss some of these.