

The Attributes Of Love Pt28

Endureth All Things

I CORINTHIANS 13:1-7

1. *Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal.*
2. *And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing.*
3. *And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing.*
4. *Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up,*
5. *Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil;*
6. *Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth;*
7. *Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, [endureth all things].*

GREEK LEXICON - STRONG'S NUMBER 5278

hupomeno {hoop-om-en'-o}

1) *to remain i.e. to tarry behind*

2) *to remain i.e. abide, not recede or flee*

2a) *to preserve: under misfortunes and trials to hold fast to one's faith in Christ*

2b) *to endure, bear bravely and calmly: ill treatments*

I CORINTHIANS 13:7b [NIV Translation]

7b. *...always perseveres.*

I CORINTHIANS 13:7b [Amplified Translation]

7b. *...endures all things [without weakening].*

REVELATION 2:8-9a

8. *And unto the angel of the church in Smyrna write; These things saith the first and the last, which was dead, and is alive; 9a. I know thy works, and tribulation, and poverty...*

CHURCH AGE BOOK

But does He hold back the persecution? Does He stem the tribulation? No, He does not. He simply says, "I KNOW your tribulation--I am not at all unmindful of your suffering." What a stumbling block this is to so many people. Like Israel they wonder if God really loves them. How can God be just and loving if He stands by and watches His people suffer?

CHURCH AGE BOOK You see, they could not figure out God's love. They thought that love meant no suffering.

CHURCH AGE BOOK He may commit you to death as He did Paul. He may commit you to suffering as He did Job. That is His prerogative. He is sovereign. **But it is all with a purpose.** If He did not have a purpose, then He would be the author of frustration and not of peace. His purpose is that after we have suffered awhile we would be made perfect, be established, strengthened and settled.

HEBREWS 5:8-9

8. *Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered;*
9. *And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him;*

CHURCH AGE BOOK In plain language, the very character of Jesus was perfected by suffering. And according to Paul He has left His church a measure of suffering that they, too, by their faith in God while suffering for Him, would come to a place of perfection. Why did He want this?

JAMES 1:2-4

2. *My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations;*
3. *Knowing this, that **the trying of your faith worketh patience.***
4. *But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.*

CHURCH AGE BOOK Why does He stand by? The reason is in Romans 8:17-18,

ROMANS 8:16-18

16. *The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:*
17. *And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.*
18. *For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.*

CHURCH AGE BOOK

Unless we suffer with Him we cannot reign with Him. You have to suffer to reign. The reason for this is that character simply is never made without suffering. **Character is a VICTORY, not a gift.** A man without character can't reign because **power apart from character is Satanic.** But power with character is fit to rule.

I PETER 4:12-13

12. *Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you:*

13. *But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy.*

CHURCH AGE BOOK

That is what Peter said. Is it strange that God wants us to develop a Christ-like character that comes through suffering? No sir. And we all have trials. We are all tried and chastened as sons. Not one but goes through that. **The church that is not suffering, and is not being tried, hasn't got it--it isn't of God.**

MATTHEW 5:10-12

10. *Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.* 11. *Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.* 12. *Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.*

CHURCH AGE BOOK

The cloudy skies and storms of life are no signs of God's disapproval. Neither are bright skies and still waters signs of His love and approval. His approval of any of us is only IN THE BELOVED. His love is elective which He had for us before the foundation of the world. Does He love us? Ah yes. But how shall we know? We shall know because He SAID SO, and manifested that He did love us for He brought us to Himself and gave us of His Spirit, placing us as sons. **And how shall I prove my love to Him? By believing what He said, and by conducting myself with joy amidst the trials that He in His wisdom allows to come to pass.**

I PETER 1:6-7

6. *Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations:* 7. *That **the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold** that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:*

CHURCH AGE BOOK

God's will for us is Perfection. And that **perfection is patience--waiting on God and waiting for God.** This is the process of character development.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS PT3 [64-0830M]

One drunk looked at the other one, said, "She's a Christian; she's got it." And that little woman led her husband, plus these others to Christ that night. See? Why? See? Just be real sweet. Just remember, **He knows all about it.**

So, sister, or brother, whoever it might be, or brother, it is here, 'cause he asked about his wife, you just be salty; she'll get thirsty if there's anything in her to thirst for.