

Love!
Since Only The Gospel Lasts

1 Peter 1:22-25

Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart, since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God; for “All flesh is like grass and all its glory like the flower of grass. The grass withers, and the flower falls, but the word of the Lord remains forever.” And this word is the good news that was preached to you.

**love one another earnestly from a pure
heart,**

1 Peter 4:7

For it is time for judgment to begin at the household of God; and if it begins with us, what will be the outcome for those who do **not obey the gospel of God?**

Romans 10:16

But they have **not all obeyed the gospel.** For Isaiah says, “Lord, **who has believed** what he has heard from us?”

Acts 15:8-9

And God, who knows the heart, bore witness to them, by giving them the Holy Spirit just as he did to us, and he made no distinction between us and them, having **cleansed their hearts by faith.**

Peter wants churches filled with people who love one another and where intimacy is the inevitable result of being made holy by God's grace.

– Scot McKnight



since you have been **born again**, not of
perishable **seed** but of **imperishable**

Romans 8:7

For the **mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God**, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot.

Titus 3:3

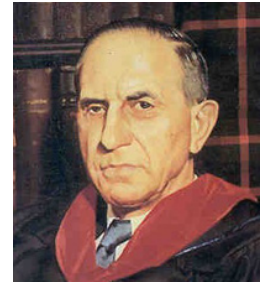
For we ourselves were **once foolish, disobedient, led astray**, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, hated by others and **hating one another.**

2 Corinthians 4:6

For God, **who said**, “Let light shine out of darkness,” has **shone in our hearts** to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

The redemptive process is the only answer to the impossibility inherent in our depravity.

– John Murray



John 14:15

If you love me, you will keep my
commandments.

love one another **earnestly** from a pure
heart

Earnestly- used to describe the distance
racing of runners and horses.

“Go the ultimate distance in loving your
brothers and sisters in Christ!”

Luke 10:27

And he answered, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, **and your neighbor as yourself.**”

To love your neighbor as yourself does not mean to have a positive self-image or high self-esteem. It means using the same zeal, ingenuity and perseverance to pursue your neighbor's happiness as you do your own.
– John Piper



So how does God teach us to love? By putting us around unlovely people. There is no other way to learn to love. If you only hang around nice, sweet, fun people, you'll never learn to love. That's why God has some of you in marriages to some very difficult people. That's why you're working around some people you don't particularly like. You can only learn to love by being around hard-to-love people. And God is the one who arranged it.

– Ray Pritchard



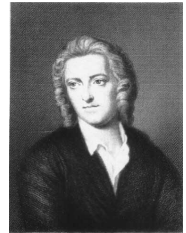
for “All flesh is like grass and all its glory like the flower of grass. The grass withers, and the flower falls, but the word of the Lord remains forever.”

John 2:15-17

Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world. **And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever.**

The boast of heraldry, the pomp of power,
And all that beauty, all that wealth e'er
gave, Awaits alike the inevitable hour,
The paths of glory lead but to the grave.

– Thomas Gray,



Matthew 24:35

Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

John 6:63

It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh is no help at all. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life.

Hebrews 4:12

For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

And this word is the good news that was
preached to you.

1 Thessalonians 2:8

So, being affectionately desirous of you, we were ready to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you had become very dear to us.

They could share the gospel with their converts without any diminution in their own enjoyment of its benefits, but to share their own lives involved utter self-denial, spending and being spent in the interest of others.

– F. F. Bruce

