

1 Corinthians 13

Chapter 13 of 16 · 13 Verses · Authorized King James Version

The Way of Love

- 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.
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- 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;
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- ⁷ Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.
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Love Never Ends

- ⁸ Charity never faileth: but whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away.
- ⁹ For we know in part, and we prophesy in part.

- 10** But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away.
- 11** When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things.
- 12** For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.
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- 13** And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity.
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HEBREW & GREEK WORD STUDIES

Angel — ἄγγελος (Angelos)

Angel, messenger

The Greek **angelos** (ἄγγελος) means angel or messenger. Angels announced Christ's birth (Luke 2:9-14), ministered to Him (Matthew 4:11), and will accompany His return (Matthew 25:31).

Believe — πιστεύω (Pisteuo)

To believe, trust, have faith

The Greek **pisteuo** (πιστεύω) means to believe or trust—active reliance upon Christ. 'For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish' (John 3:16).

Faith — πίστις (Pistis)

Faith, belief, trust

The Greek **pistis** (πίστις) denotes faith, belief, or trust—confidence in God's character and promises. It's both intellectual assent and relational trust, central to justification (Romans 5:1).

Hope — ἐλπίς (Elpis)

Hope, expectation

The Greek **elpis** (ἐλπίς) denotes hope—confident expectation of good. This hope is 'an anchor of the soul' (Hebrews 6:19), grounded in Christ's resurrection and the believer's future inheritance (1 Peter 1:3-4).

Truth — ἀλήθεια (Aletheia)

Truth, reality

The Greek **aletheia** (ἀλήθεια) denotes truth or reality—that which corresponds to actuality. Jesus declared, 'I am the way, the truth, and the life' (John 14:6), embodying ultimate reality.

CROSS REFERENCES

1 Corinthians 13:1

Love: 1 Corinthians 8:1; 13:8; Galatians 5:6; 5:22; 1 Timothy 1:5; 1 Peter 4:8. **Parallel theme:** 1 Corinthians 12:8; Matthew 25:45; Romans 14:15; 2 Peter 2:18

1 Corinthians 13:2

Love: 1 Corinthians 13:1; 13:3; 16:22; 1 John 4:8. **Faith:** Matthew 17:20; 21:21. **Parallel theme:** 1 Corinthians 7:19; Galatians 5:16; Ephesians 3:4; Colossians 1:26

1 Corinthians 13:3 **Love:** John 12:43; 15:13. **Parallel theme:** Matthew 23:5; Luke 18:22; 18:28; Galatians 5:26; 1 Timothy 4:8. **Good:** Hebrews 13:9

1 Corinthians 13:4

Love: Proverbs 10:12; 17:9; Ephesians 4:2; Colossians 3:12; 1 Peter 3:8; 4:8; 2 Peter 1:7; 1 John 4:11. **Parallel theme:** Ephesians 4:32; 1 Thessalonians 5:14

1 Corinthians 13:5

Parallel theme: 1 Corinthians 10:24; 10:33; 11:18; 12:25; 2 Corinthians 5:19; Galatians 5:13; Philippians 2:21; 4:8; James 1:19

1 Corinthians 13:6 **Parallel theme:** Jeremiah 13:17; Micah 7:8; Romans 1:32; 12:9; Philippians 1:4. **Truth:** Philippians 1:18; 2 Thessalonians 2:12; 2 John 1:4. **Sin:** Proverbs 14:9; Hosea 4:8

1 Corinthians 13:7

Parallel theme: 1 Corinthians 9:12; 13:4; Proverbs 10:12; Galatians 6:2; 2 Timothy 2:24; 4:5; James 1:12; 1 Peter 2:24; 4:8. **Faith:** Psalms 119:66

1 Corinthians 13:8

Love: 1 Corinthians 13:13; Galatians 5:6. **Parallel theme:** 1 Corinthians 12:10; 13:10; Acts 2:4; 19:6; Hebrews 8:13

1 Corinthians 13:9 **Parallel theme:** 1 Corinthians 2:9; 8:2; 13:12; Psalms 40:5; 139:6; Proverbs 30:4; Matthew 11:27; Romans 11:34; Ephesians 3:8; 1 John 3:2

1 Corinthians 13:10 **Parallel theme:** 1 Corinthians 13:12; Isaiah 24:23

1 Corinthians 13:11

Parallel theme: 1 Corinthians 14:20; Ecclesiastes 11:10; Galatians 4:1

1 Corinthians 13:12

Parallel theme: 1 Corinthians 8:3; Matthew 5:8; Romans 8:18; 2 Corinthians 3:18; 5:7; Philippians 3:12; James 1:23; 1 John 3:2; Revelation 22:4. **Darkness:** Numbers 12:8

1 Corinthians 13:13

Love: 1 Corinthians 8:3; 16:14; Philippians 1:9; Colossians 3:14; 1 John 2:10. **Faith:** Galatians 5:6; 1 Thessalonians 5:8; 1 Timothy 1:5. **Parallel theme:** 2 Corinthians 5:10. **Hope:** Colossians 1:27

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