

# 1 Corinthians 16:24

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

My love be with you all in Christ Jesus. Amen.

## Analysis

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**My love be with you all in Christ Jesus. Amen**—Hē agapē mou meta pantōn hymōn en Christō Iēsou (ἡ ἀγάπη μου μετὰ πάντων ὑμῶν ἐν Χριστῷ Ἰησοῦ). After pronouncing anathema on Christ-rejecters (v. 22), invoking grace (v. 23), Paul declares his personal agapē (ἀγάπη) for **all** the Corinthians—even those in rival factions, even those tolerating immorality, even those denying resurrection. Agapē doesn't require agreement or approval; it's covenantal commitment regardless of others' failures.

**In Christ Jesus**—En Christō Iēsou (ἐν Χριστῷ Ἰησοῦ) grounds Paul's love in union with Christ, not personal affection or mutual compatibility. Christian love flows from Christ, is modeled on Christ (chapter 13), and exists within the Christ-community. Paul can love the troublesome Corinthians because he loves them in Christ, not based on their merit. **Amen**—Amēn (Ἀμήν), from Hebrew amen (אָמֵן, "truly, certainly"), seals the letter as prayer and affirmation.

## Historical Context

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Paul's personal declaration of love counters the impression that his severe corrections indicated personal rejection. Ancient honor-shame culture made public criticism devastating, easily interpreted as personal enmity. Paul ensures the Corinthians understand: correction flows from love, not hostility. The letter's love inclusio—chapter 13 defines love, verse 24 declares it—shows that agape permeates everything, even painful correction.

## Related Passages

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**1 John 4:8** — God is love

**1 Corinthians 13:4** — Characteristics of love

## Study Questions

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1. How does Paul's declaration of love 'for all' reconcile with his harsh corrections throughout the letter?
2. What's the significance of Paul's love being 'in Christ Jesus' rather than based on personal affection?
3. Why does Paul end with personal love (v. 24) after pronouncing grace (v. 23) —how do grace and love relate?

## Interlinear Text

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ἡ	ἀγάπη	μου	μετὰ	πάντων	ὑμῶν	ἐν	Χριστῷ	Ἰησοῦ
G3588	<b>love</b>	<b>My</b>	<b>be with</b>	<b>all</b>	<b>you</b>	<b>in</b>	<b>Christ</b>	<b>Jesus</b>
	G26	G3450	G3326	G3956	G5216	G1722	G5547	G2424

ἀμήν

**Amen**

G281

## Additional Cross-References

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**Matthew 6:13** (Parallel theme): And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

**2 Corinthians 12:15** (Love): And I will very gladly spend and be spent for you; though the more abundantly I love you, the less I be loved.