

THE LOVE OF GOD AND SPIRITUAL GROWTH

In our [last lesson](#) we studied how Paul urged Timothy to instruct the Ephesians as well as the teachers of the Law with grace doctrines in the love of God. We studied the importance of the connection between Love of God and Spirituality from (1Tim.1:3-7).

In this lesson, we will be studying three aspects of the importance of the connection between the Love of God and Spiritual growth Maturity in (1 Tim.1:5).

- 1. The key to maintaining Spiritual Growth Momentum in the Christian Way of Life (CWL) is a consistent Spiritual Walk, "Spirituality". (1 Cor.6:19-20; Gal.5:16-17) (Eph.3:16-19).**

NOTE: Put on your thinking cap when studying Paul's teachings (2 Pet.3:16).

(Eph.3:16-17) "That (**hina**) He would grant (didomi/ **a.subj.3ps**) you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened (krataioo/ **a.p.infin**) [Divine Purpose] **with power through His Spirit in the inner man**, (so that) Christ may dwell (katoikeo/ **a.a. infin**) in your **hearts through faith**; you, being rooted (rhizoo/ Perf.p.ptc.nplm) and grounded (themelioo/ perf.p.ptc.nplm) in love,

(Eph.3:18-19a) "That (**hina**) you may be able (exischuo/ **a.subj.2pl**) to comprehend (katalambano) (**a.m. infin**) with all the saints, what is the breath and length and height and depth, **and to know** (ginosko) (**a.a. infin**) **the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge**,

(Eph.3:19b) "That (**hina**) you may be filled (pleroo/ **a.p.subj.2pl**) up to all the fullness of God. [The ultimate Divine Purpose]."

NOTE the three [**hina+subj**] clauses (possibilities) and four [**a. infin**]. (Divine purposes) **What surpasses knowledge of God?** (Eph.3:19; 1 Cor.2:9-13)

- 2. Paul reminded Timothy that the goal of teaching Grace Doctrines is LOVE from a pure heart, a good conscience and a sincere faith.**

(1 Tim.1:5) "But **the goal** (to telos/ nsn) of our instruction (tes paraggelia/ gsf) is (eimi/ p.a.ind.3ps) **love** (**agape/ nsf/** predicate nominative of a first declension noun) from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith."

NOTE: "When we express a noun subject of the verb, it is in apposition with the subject implied with the verb for emphasis." (Dana, pg.69)

God's love is the goal of instruction. Paul stated it in a way that LOVE could not be missed as important in the goal of instruction of grace doctrines.

God's love from the soul of the Church Age Believer (CAB) is the highest Divine Virtue of Spiritual Maturity in the Christian Way of Life (CWL) (Eph.3:16-19; 1 John 2:5; 2 Thess.1:3).

3. Paul listed three sources of Spiritual Mature Love:

- A pure heart (katharos/ cleansed/ kardia)
- A good conscience (agathos suneidesis)
- A sincere faith (anupokritos/ dissimulation/ pistis).

Notice that 2 of 5 divisions of the soul are identified with spiritual mature love: heart and conscience.

The Human Soul:

- | | | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|-----|------------------------------|
| • Self-Consciousness | Self-Awareness | | |
| • Conscience | Norms and Standards | --- | Good Conscience |
| • Mentality | Capacity to think / reason | --- | Cleansed / Pure Heart |
| • Volition | Capability to Choose | | |
| • Emotion | The Appreciator of the soul | | |

- **Pure** (katharos/ cleansed) **heart** (1 John 1:9,7, 5; 2 Tm.2:22)
- **Good** (agathos) **conscience** (Titus 1:15; Heb.9:14; Rom.12:2).
- **Sincere** (anupokritos/ dissimulation; unfeigned/ without hypocrisy) **faith** (Rom.12:9, 21)

(Gal.6:1) “Brothers and sisters, if someone is caught in a sin, you who live by the Spirit should restore that person gently. But watch yourselves, or you also may be tempted.” (vs.10) “Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.”

(Eph.4:31-32) “Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.”

(Eph.4:22-24) “You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.”

(1 Tim.1:5) “But the goal of our instruction is love from a pure heart and god conscience and a sincere faith.”