

1 Corinthians

Chapter 13

Contents: Love, the supreme gift of the **SPIRIT**, and its governing power over other gifts.

Characters: Paul.

Conclusion: Love alone can give value to any service rendered in **CHRIST**'s name, and it is therefore the supreme gift of the **SPIRIT**, to be coveted and prayed for above all other "Gifts of the **SPIRIT**"ⁱ. Faith trusts and appropriates, hope expects, but love expresses **CHRIST** and blesses all of humanity.

Key Word: Love, 1 (love).

Strong Verses: 1-3, 12, 13.

Striking Facts: **JESUS CHRIST** is the supreme expression of the love of **GOD** and **HIS** divine love and compassion is the gift of the **SPIRIT** to believers who will be yielded to **HIM**. Thinking of **JESUS** as "love" (for **GOD** is loveⁱⁱ) substitute the name **JESUS** in place of "love" and notice the force of the text. Can you say "**CHRIST** lives in me?"

Questions:

1. Without love, what object does Paul compare you to?
2. What are the greatest virtues?
3. Is faith greater than love?
4. What is the action of a mature believer?

ⁱ See 1Co 12:28, and Ephesians 4:11

ⁱⁱ See I John 4:8, 16.