

"GOD IS LOVE" (I John 4:8)

"He That Dwelleth in Love Dwelleth in God" (I John 4:16)

LOVE SUFFERS LONG, no matter what the test;
IS KIND AND GOOD, for all it does its best,
LOVE ENVIES NOT another's place or seat,
VAUNTS NOT ITSELF with boastful self-conceit;
IS NOT PUFFED UP, not haughty, vain, or proud;
BEHAVETH NOT UNSEEMLY, rude, and loud;
LOVE SEEKETH NOT HER OWN, wants others blest,
IS NOT PROVOKED when tried and sore when oppressed;
LOVE THINKS NO ILL, broods not o'er fancied wrong,
REJOICETH NOT IN SIN where evils throng;
REJOICES IN THE TRUTH, BEARS ALL in peace,
BELIEVETH ALL, and thus its worries cease;
HOPETH ALL THINGS, knows nothing of despair,
ENDURETH ALL in patience, knows no care;
LOVE NEVER FAILS though all things else may fall,
For GOD IS LOVE, let LOVE your soul enthrall.

The marvelous outline of LOVE set forth in I Corinthians, 13, transcends any human love. Christ sat forth that picture. He is the center of its thought. God is love, sinful man is not love. Man may love, but God IS love. Love with us has a rising and a falling tide, our love may be marred by impatience, unkindness, envy, self-pride, and things of the flesh.

If we would walk in love, the love outlined for us in Corinthians, we must dwell in God, and God must dwell in us; we must have the LOVE OF GOD shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost.

The love of God seeketh not her own, is not provoked; it thinks no ill; it rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth.

God's love believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things. It never fails. This is the love to which we are called. This is the love which is displayed in the Spirit-filled life.

The fruit of the Spirit is love. The works of the flesh are vastly different. When the flesh holds sway, there is all uncleanness, lasciviousness, wrath, hatred, envyings, murders, and drunkenness.

Lord, let me die to all of self and sin,
Let love, Thy love, both rule and reign within,
Until the world Thy life and light shall see
All fashioned by the Spirit, Lord, in me.

—GEMS OF GOLD.

"Luminator"

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

A young man came to London bearing a letter of introduction to Baron Rothschild with the request that he would give him employment. The great banker received him warmly, but expressed his regret that he had no position for him. As the young man was going, the baron put on his hat and walked along with him, pointing out the various objects of interest. Passing the bank, the rich man went in to transact some business. Afterward the young man applied at that very bank for work, and was asked, "Are you not the young man who was walking with the baron this morning? Well, you were in good company; and since we need a young man, we will consider this a sufficient recommendation."

To walk with God is, after all, a good recommendation. And when men of the world have need of a Christian's services, in sickness or death, they will be likely to consider such a fact as a high recommendation.

—Choice Gleanings.

14 MISTAKES OF LIFE

To expect to set up our own standard of right and wrong and expect everybody to conform to it.
To try to measure the enjoyment of others by our own.
To expect uniformity of opinion in this world.
To look for judgment and experience in youth.
To endeavor to mold all dispositions alike.
Not to yield to unimportant trifles.
To look for perfection in our own actions.
To worry ourselves and others about what cannot be remedied.
Not to alleviate, if we can, all that needs alleviation.
Not to make allowances for the weaknesses of others.
To consider everything impossible that we cannot ourselves perform.
To believe only what our finite minds can grasp.
To live as if the moment, the time, the day were so important that it would live forever.
To estimate people by some outside quality, for it is that within which makes the man.

—The United Evangelical.

Faith, like light, should always be simple and unbending; while love, like warmth, should beam forth on every side, and bend to every necessity of our brethren.

IT TAKES COURAGE

To refrain from gossip when others about you delight in it.
To stand up for an absent person who is being abused.
To live honestly within your means and not dishonestly on the means of others.
To be a real man, a true woman, by holding fast to your Christian ideals when it causes you to be looked upon as strange and peculiar.
To be talked about and yet remain when a word would justify you in the eyes of others, but which you cannot speak without injury to another.
To refuse to do a thing which is wrong, though others do it.
To dress according to your income, and to deny yourself what you cannot afford to buy.
To live always according to your convictions.

—Christian Digest.

YOUTH COUNSELLOR

Question:

When dining in a restaurant with unsaved friends, should one bow his head and say grace silently, the same as when with Christian friends? Not that I don't want to bear a testimony, far be it from that, but I have felt on different occasions when with unsaved friends that they are embarrassed and nervous by my silent praying before eating, and have also felt that they disregard eating places with a Christian for that same reason. At home, when I am with them, I have noticed they are never embarrassed by this. What should one do?

Answer:

Yours is not an easy question to answer. Perhaps in the last analysis, the solution to it lies within your own heart. There is no reason to question your sincerity. And yet it may be that you have put personal feelings unintentionally in the way.

If your sincere motive is to bear the most effective witness to your friends when eating in public, then surely you could not hope to be anything but criticized if you did not bow your head before eating. This is expected of a Christian, and all the more so of a Christian who has a real desire to witness to his associates. This does not mean that you must bow your head and pray aloud. In fact, in many instances that would be carrying the matter too far. But surely no one could intelligently criticize you for bowing your head for a moment of silent grace before eating your food.

—Youth for Christ.