

Rejoice with Truth
2017-08-13
1 Cor 13:6

1 Corinthians 13:4-6

Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth.

Sinful flesh is drawn to “car wrecks”: The bulk of news is natural disasters, accidents, people’s difficulties, misfortune, sin.... Not just justice for the villain but die in worst way.

- Love finds no malicious pleasure in misfortune, mistakes, sins, punishment of others.

Verse 7 is the last of 8 negative aspects – “Loves does not...” 1 Corinthians 13:6 different translations.

- Sometimes we say nothing but rejoice/pleased deep within.
 - Some secretly desire that another sins so they look good....i.e., divorce.
 - Some are glad there is hell for people who “deserve it”.
- Usually delight in/laugh at others’ sin; gloat, gossip. Romans 12:17
 - Piously share as “concern/prayer request” to make us look/feel better.

Love does not delight in wrongdoing, unrighteousness, evil, sin but delights in the truth.

- Interesting: Not “Love rejoices with/right doing, righteousness, holiness”.
 - Righteousness predicated (found/based on) on truth. Proverbs 30:5a, John 17:17; 14:6, 1:14, 17

Truth finds its origin in God, its incarnation in Jesus Christ, its expression in the Gospel and is presently manifested in the inerrant Word of God, the Bible.

- God’s Word is not just true but truth, the final standard of all truth. (value)
 - If beliefs about God, men, sin, judgment, love, life, death, anything conform to the Bible = true, if not conform = not true.
- Can’t change truth because not subjective – but truth can change us.
 - Sum, source & embodiment of all truth is Jesus Christ.
- 1 Corinthians 13:6 is a picture of God’s love: He was not content to just denounce/punish wrongdoing; He sought to save men from it through the truth personified, Jesus Christ.
- When saved, Lord did not rejoice in your trials/suffering nor treats sins as if of no account but rejoices in who Christian is in Jesus Christ & rejoices with all “little victories” He enables us to achieve. 1 John 3:18
 - “Love in the heart tends to holy practice in the life.” *Jonathan Edwards*

To know the truth is to see others/self accurately...both good & bad.

- I may love you but when live in sin/error, I will not rejoice.
 - Love sensitively confronts/corrects because it cares and knows sin destroys. Ephesians 4:25 (speak truth in love)

Love makes truth compassionate & forgiving.

- Love never glad/rejoice in any acts of unrighteousness but it overlooks faults without compromise or taking sin lightly.

- Then chooses to recognize/rejoice in behavior that conforms with the truth of God's Word, however little the spiritual victories or evidences of growth are. *Psalm 103:10, Philippians 4:8-9, Hebrews 10:24, 3 John 3*

Here is the way to love and unity: Make it your goal to look for and find what is right in others, encourage and rejoice with them in the goodness/truth God has worked in them.

- Choose to rejoice with the truth and take heart: the Lord is able to perfect what He has begun in others and in you.