Continuing In Brotherly Love

7-13-25

Hebrews 13:1 (ESV) Let brotherly love continue.

NIV says, "Keep on loving one another as brothers and sisters." Brotherly love is the translation of one Greek word, Philadelphia, spelled just like the city. "Brotherly love" is a prevalent and important virtue taught by God throughout the NT.

1 Thessalonians 4:9 (ESV)

Now concerning **brotherly love** you have no need for anyone to write to you, for you yourselves have been **taught by God** to love one another.

Believers are linked in the common bond of having been saved by the death of Jesus and indwelt by the Holy Spirit. When believers interact, we are not only physically connecting but also, spiritually connecting. <u>Jesus with Jesus!</u> Thus, we should have warm feelings toward one another with whom Jesus indwells.

Romans 12:10 (ESV)
Love one another with brotherly affection (love).
Outdo one another in showing honor.

We should have an attitude desiring to continue in brotherly love. I believe the first 6 verses in chapter 13 addresses the mindset necessary to continue in brotherly love. People are people with their faults. However, we should through Christ attempt to show grace. Even to those Christians we do not know well, we should show hospitality because we might be entertaining angels. We also should remember believers suffering for their faith. More personally, we should highly honor marriage since it is a picture of Christ and the church as stated in Ephesians 5:32. Brotherly love is all encompassing. Therefore, this warning.

Hebrews 13:5 (ESV)

Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for HE has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you."

God said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." Great stand-alone verse. However, here we see the consequence of one's misplaced affection. Brotherly love is hindered by the love of money. Brotherly love requires a Christ centered mindset.

It is freeing to have Christ as our security. HE never leaves us or forsakes us.

Deuteronomy 31:8 (ESV)

It is the LORD who goes before you. He will be with you; HE will not leave you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed.

When our eyes are on Jesus everything else falls into place.

Jeremiah 29:11 (ESV)

For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

Only when our eyes are on Jesus and not wrapped up in everything around us can we continue in brotherly love.

Hebrews 13:6 (ESV)
So we can confidently say,
"The Lord is my helper;
I will not fear; what can man do to me?"

We rejoice because God affirms HIS faithfulness in every circumstance. We participate in a kingdom that cannot be shaken. HE is our stronghold.

Psalm 27:1 (ESV)
The LORD is the stronghold of my life;
of whom shall I be afraid?

When God is our "stronghold" we are divinely enabled to continue in brotherly love. We love because HE first loved us.

John 15:12 (ESV)

This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.

The testimony of Jesus is that we love one another.

John 3:16 (ESV)

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.