

## Hebrews 13 - The Evidence of Faith

12/22/2019

review: The final section of Hebrews is based upon a key doctrinal verse taken from the O.T. book of Habakkuk: *Now the just shall live by faith* (Hab 2:4).

Paul used Chapter 11 to look back at the hallmarks of faith in the great saints of the old Testament.

In the next chapter (12) Paul described the endurance of faith in our lives as we look up and ahead to the Kingdom of God that awaits us; this is our hope. Hope allows us to endure each day.

Here, in chapter 13, Paul writes a laundry list of social duties for the faithful. The key to observing the "honey-do" list in this chapter is love (v1). The love described is spiritual; not worldly, physical or emotional. This is evident in the chapter divisions below.

In sum, Hebrews closes with **faith** (ch 11), **hope** (ch 12) and **love** (ch 13).

### A. Spiritual Fellowship of Love

v 1-4

Christian love flows freely in fellowship (v1), in hospitality (v2), in sympathy and compassion (v3), and in the home (v4).

### B. Spiritual Treasure of Love

v 5-6

We may lose our possessions (10:34), but we'll never lose the abiding presence of our Saviour. Paul quotes Deuteronomy 31:6-8 as a reminder that God promised he would never leave his people. No earthly treasure compares with the spiritual treasure of Christ's love, Ephesians 3:8&19.

### C. Spiritual Table of Love

v 7-10

The O.T. God used an altar of shewbread (Lev 24:5-9) to feed his priests. Jesus said *Man shall not live by bread, but by every word of God* (Lk 4:4). Today God uses the local church with it's evangelists, pastors and teachers (Eph 4:11-16) to feed his people. In response to this loving provision Paul says we should *remember* (v7), *obey* (v17) and *salute* (v24) these servants of God.

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### D. Spiritual Sacrifices of Love v 11-16

### E. Spiritual Power of Love v 17-24