

CHARITY & ITS FRUITS

Review-Sermon 6- “Love...is not arrogant or rude” 1 Cor. 13:4b-5

“A Christian spirit is a _____ spirit...Humility may be defined to be a sense of our own comparative meanness, with a disposition to a behavior answerable thereto. Humility consists partly in the understanding, or in the thought or view persons have of themselves, and partly in the will...”

“It does primarily consist in a sense of his own meanness as compared with God or a sense of the infinite _____ between God and us. We are little, despicable creatures, and mean worms of the dust, as nothing and less than nothing before God...there is no true humility without a sense of their meanness before God...If we are ignorant of our meanness as compared with Him, the most essential thing and that which is original in true humility is wanting.”

“For man is not only a mean creature in comparison with God, but he is very mean compared with multitudes of creatures of superior rank...He who has a right sense of himself with respect to God will open his eyes to see himself aright in all respects. If a person sees how he stands with respect to the first Being, the Head of all beings, it will tend greatly to help him to a just apprehension of the place in which he stands among His creatures. He who does not know the first Being and the Fountain of being _____ know anything aright.”

“Fallen man is infinitely different from God in both of these respects; both as _____ and as _____.”

“They who do not know God never can have any right knowledge of themselves and their own meanness and unworthiness...There can be no true humility in any without the creature’s seeing his distance from God, not only with respect to greatness but also _____. The angels and saints in heaven see both. They see not only how much greater God is than they, but how much more lovely He is than they.”

“Humility disposes a person heartily and freely to acknowledge his own meanness before God...It is the disposition of the humble soul to lie low before God, to humble himself in the dust in His presence...Humility disposes a person to be _____ of himself, and depend on God...He is disposed to renounce all glory of the good he has or does, and give it to God...It is the disposition of a humble person wholly to subject himself to God...He is disposed to be subject to the commands and laws of God...For by seeing his meanness and unworthiness, he is sensible that afflictive dispensations are what he deserves, and that mean circumstances are good enough for him.”

“A sense of the loveliness of God is peculiarly that discovery of God which makes humility. A sense or discovery of God’s greatness without His loveliness will not do it...The knowledge of God is the _____ of all grace. But the knowledge of God or sense of Him which is the essential thing, the very thing which works humility in the heart, is a sense of His loveliness, or seeing how infinitely God is above us in loveliness. Merely having a sense that God is infinitely above us, and that there is an infinite distance between Him and us in greatness, will not work humility; it will signify nothing towards making the heart humble, unless we are sensible there is an infinite distance between Him and us in respect to His loveliness...The devils and damned spirits have a great sense of God’s being infinitely above them in greatness; but yet have no humility, because they do not see how He is above them in loveliness.”

Review-Sermon 7- “Love...does not insist on its own way...” 1 Cor. 13:5

“A Christian spirit is opposite to a selfish spirit...The ruin which the Fall brought upon the soul of man consists very much in that he lost his nobler and more extensive principles, and fell _____ under the government of self-love.”

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“A Christian spirit is not contrary to all self-love. It is not a thing contrary to Christianity that a man should love himself; or what is the same thing, that he should love his own happiness. Christianity does not tend to destroy man’s love to his own happiness; it would therein tend to destroy _____.”

“The Scripture from one end of the Bible to the other is full of things which are held forth to work upon a principle of self-love. Such are all the _____ and _____ of the Word of God, and all its calls and invitations; its counsels to seek our own good, and its warnings to beware of misery.”

“Though the degree of men’s love of their own happiness taken absolutely may in all be the same, yet the proportion that their love of themselves bears to their love of others may not be the same...And so its influence becomes inordinate by reason of the weakness or _____ of other-love which should restrain and regulate its influence...Man before the Fall loved himself or his own happiness, I suppose, as much as after his fall. But then a superior principle of divine love had the throne, it being in such strength that it wholly regulated and directed self-love. But since the Fall this principle of divine love has lost its strength, or rather is dead. So that self-love continuing in its former strength, and having no superior principle to regulate it, become inordinate in its influence, and governs where it should be only a servant.”

“A Christian spirit seeks to please and glorify God...Christianity requires that we should make God and Christ our main _____. Christians, so far as they live like Christians, live so that for them to live is Christ.”

“Those who have a Christian spirit have a spirit to seek the good of their fellow creatures...we ought to seek others’ _____ good.”

“As it is a merciful spirit, it disposes persons to consider not only their own difficulties but also the burdens and afflictions which others suffer...A person of a selfish spirit is ready to make _____ of the afflictions which he himself is under, as if he stood in greater necessity of those and those things than anybody else...”

“It (a Christian spirit) is a _____ spirit. It does not only seek the good of others who are in affliction...but is communicative to all, and forward to promote the good of all, as there is opportunity.”

“Nature cannot go beyond self-love; but all that men do is in some way or other from this root...self-love is the sum of natural principles, as divine love is of supernatural principles. This divine love is no plant which grows naturally in such a soil as the heart of man. But it is a plant transplanted into the soul out of _____; it is something divine, something from the holy and blessed Spirit of God, and so has its foundation in God, and not in self.”

“How Christian love is in a peculiar manner above and contrary to a selfish spirit appears by this, it goes out even to _____. There is that in the nature and tendency of it to go out to the unthankful and evil, and to those that injure and hate us, which is directly contrary to the tendency of a selfish principle, and quite above nature.”

“They who have true love to God love Him so as wholly to devote themselves to God...They who have true love to God, love God as God, and as the Supreme Good; whereas the nature of selfishness is to set up self for God, and to make an _____ of self. That being which men respect as God, they devote all to. They who idolize self devote all to self, but they who love God as God devote all to Him.”

“Our love to others will not _____ on their love to us; but we shall do as Christ did to us, love them, though enemies.”