

Teacher: Brother Tokunbo 10/08/2008
Topic: LOVE IN THE BODY OF CHRIST
Bible Reading/ Passage: John 3 vs. 16 –21 and John 21 vs. 15 -17

INTRODUCTION:

In the first bible passage we saw God loving the whole world that He gave his only begotten son that who so ever beleiveth in Him will not perish but have everlasting life, we saw God demonstrating care and love for the works of his hands after Man lost the first glory in the garden of Eden, God still cares for him, in the second passage we saw our Lord Jesus Christ given Apostle Peter the commandment of taking care of the lamp, the sheep and finally the sheep.

The summary of the two passages implies, that God demonstrated love at the creation even to the point of sacrificing His only son and also He himself charging us to keep the light burning.

WHAT IS LOVE

The world love has no beginning and no end it is endless (God is love, Zoë), in the sense that true love is endless, it has no end, God loved us and till love us and will still keep on loving us. This topic can never be treated fully but as the spirit enables us we shall be narrowing our teachings to the attributes of love and what is expected of us as Christians.

So what is love in 1 Cor. 13 vs4 – 8, the Bible made us to understand the followings as the definition of love?

1. *Love is patient,*
2. *Love is kind,*
3. *It does not envy,*
4. *It does not boast,*
5. *It is not proud,*
6. *It is not rude,*
7. *It is not self-seeking,*
8. *It is not easily angered,*
9. *It keeps no records of wrongs,*
10. *Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth,*
11. *It always hopes and*
12. *Always persevere*

13. In 1 Cor 1 vs, 10-12 and also 1 Cor. 3 vs, 1-10, is there any disunity among us, in any way, are we saying that I belong to Paul and Apollo? True love does not discriminate.

14. Love does not support favourism, the same book of James2 vs. 8-9

15. True love always takes care of the needy among us, that is why Jesus was telling Peter that he should take care of the lamp (babies and new converts among you) the sheep those growing Christians (the matured congregation) and lastly the sheep the ministers. In James 2 vs. 14-17. and James 1 vs. 27

Preaching to them, checking on each other's welfare, making your iron to sharpened the other iron.....

IN CONCLUSION for today 1 Peter 4 vs.7 –11 the end of all things is near. Therefore be clear minded and self-controlled so that you can pray. Above all love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins, offer hospitality to one another without grumbling, each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power forever and ever AMEN.

PRAYERS

1. Lord Jesus I repent of my sins of hatred to my brethren's, as I come before you today, have mercy upon me and cleanse me from all known sins that can hinder me from entering your kingdom, Lord please write my name in the book of life and let your blood make me whole again.
2. You spirit of laziness die in me in Jesus name
3. Works of flesh die in me in Jesus name
4. Oh Lord! My God make me a vessel unto honour in your kingdom in Jesus name
5. My life become a blessing unto others in Jesus name
6. Spirits of God overshadow me in Jesus name
7. Thanks God for the answered prayers