"Let Love ... Continue"

Intro: In opening to the last chapter of Hebrews we come to the final exhortations of this book where the Author commands the reader to put to ____________ that which he has learned and ______________.

A. The revelation of the truth of Jesus ____________ which has come to us through the teaching of the twelve previous chapters is meant to be much more than an unconnected intellectual exercise but faith in Christ it is so completely influence us, thoroughly ______________ our being, that it affects everything about us.

B. This leads us to the thirteenth chapter where we are immediately instructed in specific practices by which we are to ________ God an acceptable service with reverence and awe. In these soul-searching exhortations we find that these faith based services are performed unto God through ______________ to others.

I. Let us have ____________ that we may offer to God acceptable ____________ with reverence and awe by:

A. Continuing to ________ the brethren.

1. This is no small command! Those who are of faith, who hold God in reverence and awe, ______________ Him ____ letting the _________ of the brethren continue!

2. Brotherly love refers that heart-felt endearing commitment of a deep unending friendship that is based upon the love of Christ where __________ _______ ___________ one to another through such ministries as care, benevolence, kindness, goodwill and the giving of oneself for the good of the other.

3. This is what it means to let the love of the brethren continue: to _______ in it still _________. Don't become weary in the well doing of brotherly love, don't lose heart but continue to run the race of faith by enduring in this godly quality: Continually love the brethren in word and deed!

4. Romans 12:20-21 & 13:8-10 must be our pledge of love in Christ: "But if your enemy is hungry, ________ him, and if he is thirsty, ________ him a drink; for in so doing you will heap burning coals upon his head." 21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good. ... 13:8 Owe nothing to anyone except to _________ one another; for he who loves his neighbor has fulfilled the law. 9 For this, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and if there is any other commandment, it is summed up in this saying, "You shall love _________ neighbor as yourself." 10 Love does no wrong to a ______________; love therefore is the fulfillment of the law."
5. If we are to successfully let the love of the brethren continue then we must recognize that we have brothers and sisters _______! And we must cherish this precious and eternal relationship. As John Owen wrote, “This brotherhood is religious: all believers have _______ Father (Matt. 23:8, 9), _______ elder Brother (Rom. 8:29), who is not ashamed to call them brethren (Heb. 2:11); have _______ spirit, and are called in _______ hope of calling (Eph. 4:4), which being a spirit of adoption invests them all in the _______ family (Eph. 3:14, 15).”

6. While under the Law it was “love your neighbor as yourself” now to the believers under the _______ Covenant it is added “_______ one another, even ____ _______ has loved you, that we would also love one another!”

B. Showing __________________ to strangers.

1. In the exercise of faith we love the brethren by showing hospitality to strangers! The Christian grace of brotherly love _______ _______ even to strangers for such a divine love depends not upon the soul in need but the need of the Christian soul to be expressed.

2. While we live in a time when strangers are not commonly knocking on our door looking for a place to stay, and Christians in these United States are not fleeing for their lives, yet this rule of _______ _______ : we are to continue to love the brethren by being hospitable (___________, kind, benevolent, opening our homes to one another and moreover to strangers, feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, _______ for the injured), encouraging sinner and saint alike. Let us serve God in reverence and awe!

C. __________________ the imprisoned and ill-treated.

1. We are to _______ our brothers who are being _______ by means of imprisonment, caring for them as though we were in prison with them.

2. We are to be the hand of God’s grace in _______ those who are _______ on account of being identified with Christ.

Closing: “Let _______ of the brethren continue” through acts of faith manifested through hospitality, care for prisoners and the mistreated. In this way we will show gratitude, offering to God an acceptable service of worship with reverence and awe. If we are saved by grace then let us _______ _______!

Heritage Christian Fellowship
11104 Menaul Blvd. NE., Albuquerque, New Mexico 87112
505.323.0557 - www.heritageabq.org