

# “Faith, Hope, and Charity”

## 1 Cor. 13:4-13

### Introduction

- I. The time of miraculous works is over (1 Cor. 13:8-12; cf. Mark 16:17-20).
- II. The Word of God is complete and sufficient for us today (2 Pet. 1:3; 2 Tim. 3:16-17).
- III. With that being understood, we should focus on other things instead; for instance, faith, hope, and charity.

### Discussion

#### I. FAITH

- A. From the Greek word “pistis”.
- B. The Biblical definition is found in Hebrews 11:1.
- C. Thayer summarized-*“the conviction that God exists and is creator and ruler of all things, the provider and bestower of eternal salvation through Christ”*
- D. Faith is absolutely essential and important in regard to spiritual matters (Heb. 11:6).
- E. Without faith, there is no forgiveness or everlasting life (John 8:24; 20:30-31).
- F. The absence of faith brings fear and doubt (Matt. 14:23-33).
- G. Faith comes by hearing the Word of God (Rom. 10:17).
- H. Faith is dead without works of obedience (James 2:14-26).

#### II. HOPE

- A. Thayer defines hope as *“joyful and confident expectation of eternal salvation”*.
- B. Paul had hope (Acts 26:5-7).
- C. Peter had hope (1 Pet. 3:15).
- D. Hope is one of the things that helps us to endure and persevere (Rom. 8:24-25).
- E. Our hope lead us to be pure (1 John 3:3; 1 Pet. 1:13-16).
- F. The Word of God is able to produce hope (Rom. 15:4).

#### III. CHARITY

- A. Charity is translated in other versions as “love”.
- B. This is a special type of “love”, agape love (1 Cor. 13:4-8).
- C. Charity may be the closest English word to describe agape love, it is selfless.
- D. This is the type of “love” that caused Jesus to die for us (Rom. 5:8; 1 John 3:16-19; 1 John 4:10-11).
- E. This is the type of “love” that Jesus wants us to have for one another (1 John 3:22-23; 4:7-9; 1 Thess. 4:9).

### Conclusion

- I. The life of a Christian should be demonstrated by faith, hope, and charity.
- II. We would have no faith or hope without the love of God.