

# THE IMPORTANCE OF LOVE

By

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# Tongues without love are worthless

- Tongues were languages (Acts 2:2-5, 7, 9-11; 1 Cor. 14:7-11)
- Today? (1 Cor. 13:8-10)

# Prophecy without love is nothing

- Prophecy was revealing God's will to people. It was an extremely important gift, but even so, without love it was nothing
  - ▣ Contrast Balaam (Num. 24) with Paul (1 Thess. 2:3-12)

# Knowledge without love is nothing

- **Ability to understand all mysteries**
  - Mysteries were those things that were hidden but now revealed. Examples:
    - Mystery of God in human flesh (Col. 2:2-3, 9; 1 Tim. 3:16)
    - Mystery of Christ in us (Col. 1:26-27)
    - Mystery of the Gentiles included in the body (Eph. 3:3-6, 9)
    - Mystery of lawlessness (2 Thess. 2:7)
    - Mysteries of the kingdom of God (Matt. 13:11)
- **All knowledge - not the knowledge that can be ascertained by study, but supernatural knowledge.**

# Faith without love is nothing

- Faith here is that mature faith gained without studying, a miraculous faith, and a faith that does not doubt!
- “If you had all faith, faith that never doubted God or even had a tinge of question; if you were such a rock that nothing was impossible for you to believe, nothing brought a question to your mind, nothing was a cause for doubt; and even if you never shook, never wavered in anything, and never questioned God--without love you'd be a nothing.”

# Benevolence without love profits nothing

- He is speaking of one who is giving away what he has bit by bit – but if he is doing it without love it profits him nothing!
  - ▣ Contrast Barnabas with Ananias and Sapphira (Acts 4:32-5:11)

# Martyrdom without love profits nothing

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- Even giving one's life for Christ without love it profits nothing!