

January 24, 2020

Ten Pictures of Love - #4

1 Cor. 13:4-6 Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth.

Again, Paul describes love from the opposite side by saying, love does not boast. The Greek term he uses - *perpereuetai* means bringing glory to yourself or bragging about an accomplishment. Literally, it is one who sounds his own praises. I think it is fairly safe to say that this is not a characteristic of God's kind of love. He doesn't love us because we are lovable. He just loves us, period.

For us to base our love on anything makes it a conditional love; whether it is our own pride or our own feeling of our abilities. Prov. 27:2 states it this way: Let someone else praise you, and not your own mouth; an outsider, and not your own lips.

Taking any responsibility for the love that we have been given from the Father is saying that we somehow deserve it. No! What we deserve is to be separated from Him forever because of our transgressions. Therefore, we have no ability to say we love because of any good thing in us, but because He was and is willing to love us, period!

Lord, I know that I'm not worthy to receive anything from You. What I deserve, You poured out upon Jesus when I died on the cross for the world. I thank You that even so, You love me.

Amazing love, how can it be, that You my King would die for me; Amazing love, I know it's true; it's my joy to honor You in all I do. In Jesus Name, Amen