

# LETTERS

## **1 Corinthians 13**

### **Why Love is the greatest of all Virtues**

If I speak in human and angelic tongues\* but do not have love, I am a resounding gong or a clashing cymbal.a

2 And if I have the gift of prophecy and comprehend all mysteries and all knowledge; if I have all faith so as to move mountains but do not have love, I am nothing.b

3 If I give away everything I own, and if I hand my body over so that I may boast but do not have love, I gain nothing.c

4 \* Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous, [love] is not pompous, it is not inflated,d

5 it is not rude, it does not seek its own interests, it is not quick-tempered, it does not brood over injury,

6 it does not rejoice over wrongdoing but rejoices with the truth.

7 It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.f

8\* Love never fails. If there are prophecies, they will be brought to nothing; if tongues, they will cease; if knowledge, it will be brought to nothing.

9 For we know partially and we prophesy partially,

10 but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away.

11 When I was a child, I used to talk as a child, think as a child, reason as a child; when I became a man, I put aside childish things.

12 At present we see indistinctly, as in a mirror, but then face to face. At present I know partially; then I shall know fully, as I am fully known.g

13 \* So faith, hope, love remain, these three;h but the greatest of these is love.

## **Hebrews 4: 1-12**

### **Why we must rest on Sunday**

The Sabbath Rest.

1 Therefore, let us be on our guard while the promise of entering into his rest remains, that none of you seem to have failed.

2 For in fact we have received the good news just as they did. But the word that they heard did not profit them, for they were not united in faith with those who listened.

3 For we who believed enter into [that] rest, just as he has said:a “As I swore in my wrath, ‘They shall not enter into my rest,’” and yet his works were accomplished at the foundation of the world.

4 For he has spoken somewhere about the seventh day in this manner, “And God rested on the seventh day from all his works”

5 and again, in the previously mentioned place, “They shall not enter into my rest.”c

6 Therefore, since it remains that some will enter into it, and those who formerly received the good news did not enter because of disobedience,

7 he once more set a day, “today,” when long afterwards he spoke through David, as already quoted: “Oh, that today you would hear his voice: ‘Harden not your hearts.’”

8 Now if Joshua had given them rest, he would not have spoken afterwards of another day.e

9 Therefore, a sabbath rest still remains for the people of God.

10 And whoever enters into God’s rest, rests from his own works as God did from his.

11 Therefore, let us strive to enter into that rest, so that no one may fall after the same example of disobedience.

12 Indeed, the word of God is living and effective, sharper than any two-edged sword, penetrating even between soul and spirit, joints and marrow, and able to discern reflections and thoughts of the heart.<sup>f</sup>

### **Galatians 2:15-21**                      **Why Faith replace Rules**

15 We, who are Jews by nature and not sinners from among the Gentiles,

16 [yet] you know that a person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by works of the law, because by works of the law no one will be justified.\*

17 But if, in seeking to be justified in Christ, we ourselves are found to be sinners, is Christ then a minister of sin? Of course not!

18 But if I am building up again those things that I tore down, then I show myself to be a transgressor.\*

19 For through the law I died to the law,\* that I might live for God. I have been crucified with Christ;<sup>o</sup>

20 yet I live, no longer I, but Christ lives in me; insofar as I now live in the flesh, I live by faith in the Son of God who has loved me and given himself up for me.<sup>p</sup>

21 I do not nullify the grace of God; for if justification comes through the law, then Christ died for nothing.

### **Ephesians 4:1-6**                      **How we are meant to be united**

Unity in the Body.

1 \* I, then, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to live in a manner worthy of the call you have received,<sup>a</sup>

2 with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another through love,<sup>b</sup>

3 striving to preserve the unity of the spirit through the bond of peace:<sup>c</sup>

4 \* one body and one Spirit, as you were also called to the one hope of your call;<sup>d</sup>

5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism;<sup>e</sup>

6 one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

### **1 Timothy 2:1-6**                      **Pray for others**

Prayer and Conduct.

1 \* First of all, then, I ask that supplications, prayers, petitions, and thanksgivings be offered for everyone, 2 for kings and for all in authority, that we may lead a quiet and tranquil life in all devotion and dignity.

3 This is good and pleasing to God our savior,<sup>b</sup>

4 who wills everyone to be saved and to come to knowledge of the truth.<sup>c</sup>

5 For there is one God. There is also one mediator between God and the human race, Christ Jesus, himself human,

6 who gave himself as ransom for all.

**2Tim1:6-9 Do not be ashamed of God (Ron's favorite Scripture)**

6For this reason, I remind you to stir into flame the gift of God<sup>2</sup> that you have through the imposition of my hands. 7For God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but rather of power and love and self-control 8So do not be ashamed of your testimony to our Lord, nor of me, a prisoner for his sake; but bear your share of hardship for the gospel with the strength that comes from God 9He saved us and called us to a holy life, not according to our works but according to his own design and the grace bestowed on us in Christ Jesus before time began,