

Then he immediately starts that thirteenth chapter of 1 Cor., and <sup>its</sup> ~~the~~ first three verses -- the chapter divides into three parts naturally --- and the first three verses I thought of calling the Importance of Love. <sup>he</sup> Then I decided that title was not sufficient for the tremendous stress that <sup>lays</sup> is laid upon it. I thought of perhaps the Necessity of Love, or the Supreme Importance of Love. You could hardly use greater suprelatives than Paul uses here. He's just been talking about speaking in various tongues. He's been talking about eloquent preachers. Speaking about Apostles and so on. He says, "Though I speak with the ~~the~~ tongues of men and angels and have not love, I am just like a clanging brass; I am just a tinkling symbol." But then he is not just talking about <sup>b</sup> people who could speak well and often don't say anything, he's talking <sup>also</sup> about knowledge. "Though I have the gift of prophecy and understand all mysteries and all knowledge." Well, he says, No matter how much your knowledge is, how tremendous your ability to comprehend things, if you don't have love, if you don't have agape, he says, it is absolutely worthless.

He even says that no matter how much faith you have; if you had so much faith you could remove mountains if you don't have love you are nothing. Then he speaks of charity in a modern sense: Thou ~~x~~ I bestow all my goods to feed the poor. Self-sacrifice: Though I give my body to be burned; though I'm ready to do everything for what I believe in, and have not love, it profits me nothing. What tremendous suprelatives Paul uses here. Yet we find there are people who just don't like to speak about this at all, who pass over <sup>this chapter</sup> ~~these areas~~, and it's easy to understand why because the modernists have missused it. The modernists have used the <sup>word</sup> ~~wrod~~ love as if love meant simply not standing for anything at all, just being most tolerant of wickedness, of evil, of unbelief. Well, that's certainly not what Paul had in mind by love at all. But he says, Thou I have all knowledge but don't have love I'm <sup>nothing</sup> ~~not~~. He doesn't mean if you have some