

It is greatest because it comprehends that attitude of mind which He is desirous to build up in us toward our friends and also toward those who dislike us or hate us or mistreat us. Above all this attitude toward God, and to Christ. And also because love gathers within itself true faith and true hope. "Now abideth faith, hope, and love, these three but the greatest of these is love. Follow after love." And then he goes on to discuss the gifts, the attitudes, the activities that are important to serving Him effectively in this life, but He wants us always to keep in mind the centrality of that which endures. Let us pray:

Our Father we thank you for your Word with its clear teaching. But Oh our God it is of infinite importance and it touches on a thousand subjects, and it gives truths that are of great importance in one age and difficult to comprehend at another period of time. But our Father we pray that you will help us to stand on what is clear in it, and to be charitable on points on which equally Christian people differ. But Oh our Father, we pray that you will enable us to seek the gifts, to be <sup>your</sup> the gifts to your church of Apostles, prophets, teachers, to accomplish in this life what we should, but to remember that what abides are these characteristics of faith, hope, and love which you desire to build up in us and also in those to whom we minister. Help us we pray to keep our priorities right and to go forward to develop as you would have us ~~develop~~ develop. We ask in Jesus Name. Amen.