

### **Characteristics of Love (αγάπη - agape)**

**True love is given by the Spirit**

Galatians 5:22

Romans 5:5

What kind of love do unbelievers have?

### **Origin of Love**

- From God (1 John 4:7 – 13; 2 Timothy 1:7)
- Through His Spirit (Ephesians 3:14 – 19)
- Prayer (Philippians 1:9 – 11)
- Purified souls (1 Peter 1:22 – 25)
- In Christ (1 Timothy 1:14)

### **Activities of Love**

- Lay down soul (John 15:13; 1 John 3:16)
- Stimulate love in Christians (Hebrews 10:24)
- Sharing (1 John 3:17; 2 Corinthians 8:8, 24)
- Forbearance (Ephesians 4:2)
- Giving ourselves up (Ephesians 5:2)
- Consolation (Philippians 2:1)
- Unity (Colossians 2:2)
- Re-affirmed on occasion (2 Corinthians 2:8)

### **Qualities of Love**

- Truth (2 Thessalonians 2:10)
- Pursued (1 Timothy 6:11)
- Exclusive (Luke 16:13)
- Perfected (1 John 2:5; 1 John 4:12)
- We are as Jesus in the world (1 John 4:17)
- Owed (Romans 13:8)
- Commends us (2 Corinthians 6:6)
- Breastplate (1 Thessalonians 5:8)

### **Objects of Love**

- His appearing (2 Timothy 4:8)
- Neighbors (Matthew 5:43 *et al*)
- Enemies (Matthew 5:44 *et al*)
- The Lord (Matthew 22:37 *et al*)
- Christians (John 13:34 – 35; 1 Peter 2:17)
- Wives (Ephesians 5:25, 28; Colossians 3:19)

### **Love is not**

- Hypocritical (Romans 12:9)
- Evil for a neighbor (Romans 13:10)
- Only for those who love (Matthew 5:46)
- Fearful (1 John 4:18)
- Waxing cold (Matthew 24:12)