

Love One Another Part 2!

KJV John 13:34 A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.

KJV 2 Timothy 3:1 This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.

2 For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,

3 Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good,

4 Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;

5 Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.

Perilous means “**hard to take and hard to live with**”!

As this world comes to an end it's getting harder to take the things people are doing to one another!

And as things get worse it gets harder to live in this evil world.

Paul says the reason the times will be so hard is the absence of the love of God in the hearts of people!

People are going to be lovers of themselves! They will care less and less about other people and more and more about themselves.

It's the Greek word *Philautos* (fil-ow-tos) meaning “**concerned with only self's interests.**”

❖ Folks the definition of **self-love** is **narcissism**!

In Greek Mythology **Narcissus** was proud and disrespected those who loved him. **Nemesis** noticed his behavior and led him to a pool where **Narcissus** who fell passionately in love with his own image reflecting in the pool. **Not realizing it was an image he never left the pool and eventually died looking at himself.**

❖ **Narcissism** is the fixation with one's self!

People like this do everything based solely on what they get out of it!

They chose jobs based solely on what they can get out of them.

They chose a mate based solely on what that person can do for them.

They even chose the church based on what the church can do for them—not how they can build The Kingdom.

The other 19 attitudes mentioned **2 Timothy 3:1-4** are the direct result of the absence of God's love and the increase of self-love or **narcissism**.

Think about when a person loves themselves more than anyone else they will be **covetous**.

To covet is too long to have something that belongs to someone else!

Lovers of money! People without the love of God and the love of others will do any and everything to take what belongs to you.

Proud! Self-exaltation, improper and excessive self-esteem!

People without God's love and love for others seek to make everyone else small and devalue their accomplishments.

Boasters! While pride is the inner attitude, boasting is one of its manifestations.

Boasters talk **only** about the things they've done, what they know and their abilities which are always bigger and better than anyone else's.

Abusive abuse means **ab-normal use!** People who don't have love can't give love and they end up abusing people and calling it love.

The late great Dr. Myles Munroe in his landmark teaching on purpose declares "*Where purpose is not known abuse is inevitable.*"

Dr. Munroe says "*When we don't know the purpose of a thing we will abuse it.*" *This is why there is so much marriage and child abuse!*

It's interesting to note the KJV uses the word **blasphemers** to describe a specific type of abuse.

Blasphemy is speaking or writing evil, slanderous and insulting words meant to destroy another's character. (**Social Media is full of blasphemy against other people.**)

Matthew 12:37 *for by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned."*

Disobedient to parent's people who won't obey their parents have no love for family or respect for authority!

Ungrateful people are not thankful, appreciative or willing to be kind and gracious to people who were gracious to them.

Unholy is to be unclean, profane, polluted, common, every day and average.

It's basically doing what the average person does every day that God sees as unholy!

Heartless (without natural affection), shares no **empathy** with others. Empathy is understating and sharing in the feelings of others.

Unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal acts like an animal, **not lovers of the good, treacherous** (a betrayer of trust), **reckless, swollen with conceit, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God! These are ALL narcissistic behaviors!**

❖ The apostle Paul said these same attitudes develop in people who reject and ignore God, Why? **Because God is LOVE!**

NIV Romans 1:21 For although they knew God (God's Love), they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened.

22 Claiming to be wise, they became fools,

23 and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and reptiles.

Paul said as the people continue ignoring God, pushing Him further aside—God keeps lifting His hand of grace and mercy off them.

As people progressively move away from God He moves away from them! James 4:8 Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

➤ **Until finally we reach the same place Paul tells Timothy!**

ESV Romans 1:28 And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God (God is Love—they rejected the love God has for them and the love they should have for others), God gave them up to a debased mind to do what ought not to be done.

29 They have become filled with every kind of wickedness, evil, greed and depravity. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit and malice. They are gossips,

30 slanderers, God-haters, insolent, arrogant and boastful; they invent ways of doing evil; they disobey their parents;

31 they are senseless, faithless, heartless, ruthless.

32 Although they know God's righteous decree that those who do such things deserve death, they not only continue to do these very things but also approve of those who practice them.

Paul says people will become lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God.

Pleasing their senses will be more important than pleasing God!

Some will even say God told them to do this, that and the other, but they're really seeking to please themselves rather than God!

If we keep pushing God to the back of our hearts we will eventually push Him out!

This is exactly what's happening—God is being pushed out of our schools, businesses, government and the church.

And so is His love, because God is LOVE! When God's love is absent what and who do you think will take LOVE'S place?

He will **not** force His way into our lives, He will back away and give us over to our own depraved mind, then we will become savage beasts incapable of loving and being a civilized society!