

January 20, 2020

### An Act of Love

1 Pt. 4:8 Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. First of all, Peter states that above everything else. That is a very lofty command. Above our jobs, above our status, above our bank account, above everything that this world screams is so important. Above it all, we are to love each other intensely, passionately, completely, deeply. I love how Nisbet's Commentary puts it - that love for each other, perfect, honest, intense (that is the word that brings out the true meaning of the original), which is the outcome of true and perfect love for God. It is love for every fellow-creature upon whom we see stamped the Image of the One Father—be he stranger or kinsman, friend or foe—love such as—what?—such as God has for us.

But if that is not vivid enough, Peter tells us why we are to love each other deeply - because love covers over a multitude of sins. It keeps us from looking at the sin so that I can show love to the sinner. Because of His great love for us, Christ took on all of our sin so that we could be made whole and clean. His love looked past my transgressions and saw me as redeemed.

We must quit looking for the bad in people, which we so easily do, and instead we must see the potential good in everyone. As Abraham Lincoln once said: When you look for the bad in men, expecting to find it, you surely will." I believe these words to be true. When you search for the negative things in people (and in life), you will find them.

Instead Peter says, look at others through the eyes of our Savior, just as Paul says in Eph. 5:2- and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave Himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

Read these thought provoking lyrics by Wayne Watson and his song Rose Colored Glasses:

Heavenly Father--Have You got a moment  
There's something I don't understand  
How from Your window--Watchin' Your children  
You hold back the wrath of Your hand  
Does Your window pane--Bear a lasting stain  
That a sinful rain can't wash away

Chorus

His gaze always passes thru rose colored glasses  
Every time He looks on my heart  
And thru love's forgiveness  
Thru purity's fire  
I am my God's desire

Heavenly Father--Just one more question  
I don't mean to take so much time  
But tell me--How much did it hurt You  
To give from Your garden  
The most lovely rose from Your vine  
When the petals fell--When the colors ran  
Was it then and there You first saw me holy Chorus

Dear Lord, thank You for seeing me through the blood of Jesus. Seeing me clean and whole and pure. Your love has covered over a multitude of sins. Now Lord, please help me to love others the way that You have loved me, In Jesus Name, Amen