

January 30, 2020

### Ten Pictures of Love - #10

1 Cor. 13:4-6 Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not act unbecomingly, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth.

The Greek phrase here is the term *adikia*. It means not conforming to what is right. We live in an ever changing world that seems to delight in doing evil. And, by the way, it will get even worse before it gets better. We see the picture of this in Eph. 4:18-19 They are darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardening of their hearts. Having lost all sensitivity, they have given themselves over to sensuality so as to indulge in every kind of impurity, with a continual lust for more. The connotation of the usage of the word *adikia* in this form is that they enjoy unrighteousness. Paul says people who live in the love of God cannot live like this. This reminds us that even when those who live in that continual state are punished, we should mourn for them instead of thinking, they got what they deserve. This is the greatest fact about the love of God. He does not punish us as we deserve! Psalm 103:10 He does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities.

The greatest picture of the love of God is this: Rom 5:8 But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

We might think that those who mock God or scorn what He has done need to “get what they deserve!” And yet, God is patient. So patient that 2 Peter 3:9 states: The Lord is not slow in keeping His promise, as some understand slowness. Instead He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

Let us rejoice with the truth that God so loved the world that He gave.....

Dear Father, help me to see the needs of the people all around me, not just the actions. Help me to look beyond the faults and see the needs, just like You do for me. In Jesus Name, Amen