

**The Duties of Faith
(Chapters 12 & 13)**

Love (1-6)

Show Love To...

Each Other (1)

-Brotherly Love

- φιλαδελφία
(*Philadelphia*)

Refers to affection within the family. The expression is metaphorically extended to include those adopted into God's family

-Rom 12:10

-1Th 4:9

-1Pe 1:22

-2Pe 1:7

Our Spouse (4)

-Held in honor

-Undefined

1Co 6:18-20

1Co 7:2 "each man should have his own wife and each woman her own husband."

Leaders (7-8)

Earthly Leaders (7)

"outcome" is understood by many as a euphemism for death.

Elders, ministers, teachers who maintained their faith through death...remember and imitate them!

Heavenly Leader (8)

*Jesus

Earthly leaders come and go, but He is always there.

His nature never changes.

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The Greater Response (Chapters 11 to 13)

¹Let **brotherly love** continue.

²Do not neglect to **show hospitality** to **strangers**, for thereby some have **entertained angels** unawares.

³**Remember** those who are in **prison**, as though in prison with them, and those who are mistreated, **since you also are in the body**.

⁴Let **marriage** be **held in honor** among all, and let the marriage **bed be undefiled**, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous.

⁵Keep your life free from **love of money**, and **be content with what you have**, for he has said, "*I will never leave you nor forsake you.*" ⁶So we can confidently say, "*The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?*"

⁷**Remember** your **leaders**, those who spoke to you the word of God. Consider the **outcome of their way of life**, and **imitate** their faith.

⁸**Jesus Christ** is **the same yesterday and today and forever**.

⁹Do not be **led away by diverse and strange teachings**, for it is good for the heart to be **strengthened by grace**, not by **foods**, which have not benefited those devoted to them.

Legalism (9)

-Jesus will ALWAYS be the same, and if some teaching is different than Christ, **don't fall for it!**

-How do we keep from falling for strange teachings?

-We receive our salvation from the grace of God, not from legalistic adherence to works such as dietary restrictions:

-1 Co 8:8, 13; 6:13

-Ro 14:17

Show Love To...

Strangers (2)

-Hospitality

Angels - reminds us of Abraham (**Gen 18**) and Lot (**Gen 19**)

Not on the off chance that one might happen to receive an angel but because God is pleased when believers are hospitable.

Prisoners (3)

-Remember

-1Co 12:26 "If one member suffers, all suffer together"

Compassion is an essential part of Christian living.

Don't Love...

Money (5-6)

-1Ti 6:6-10

Why? - We are to be content with what we have (**Phil 4:10-13**)

God has promised never to forsake us (**5b**).

-A promise like this was given to:

*Jacob (**Ge 28:15**)

*Israel (**De 31:6, 8**)

*Joshua (**Jos 1:5**)

*Solomon (**1 Ch 28:20**)

God has promised to be our helper (**6**)

-Ps 118:6

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Hebrews Chapter 13 - Questions for Discussion

What is “brotherly love?” What is the Greek word for this? (v. 1)

How have some “entertained angels?” What event is this referencing? Could this happen today? What is the overall message? (vv. 2; Gen 18, 19; Matthew 25:35)

How are we to “remember the prisoners?” Who are these people? (vv. 3; I Cor 12: 26)

How does the Hebrew writer describe marriage? What is God’s plan for marriage? Why will immorality or adultery be judged by God (be specific)? (vv. 4; I Cor 6:18-20; I Tim 4:1-5)

Why does the love of money lead to evil? What reason do we have to be content with what we have? (vv. 5-6; Josh 1:5; Psalm 118:6; Phil 4:10-13; I Tim 6:10)

From the context, who are the “leaders” described in verse seven? Why are we to remember them? (v. 7)

What is meant by the statement about Jesus Christ being “the same yesterday, today and forever?” How does this relate to what is being said in verse seven? In a practical sense, what does this mean in day-to-day Christian living? (v. 8)

What would constitute a “strange” teaching? How can we recognize this type of teaching? How is our heart “strengthened by grace?” (vv. 9; Rom 12:2)

Teacher's Notes

Each Other

5789 φιλαδελφία (*philadelphia*), ας (*as*), ἡ (*hē*): n.fem.; ≡ Str 5360; TDNT 1.144—LN 25.34 **love for fellow believer**, formally, brotherly love; brotherly kindness (Ro 12:10; 1Th 4:9; Heb 13:1; 1Pe 1:22; 2Pe 1:7+)¹

5360. φιλαδελφία philadelphia; from 5361; *the love of brothers, brotherly love*:—brotherly kindness(2), brotherly love(1), love of the brethren(3).²

Romans 12:10 (ESV)

¹⁰ Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor.

1 Thessalonians 4:9 (ESV)

⁹ Now concerning brotherly love you have no need for anyone to write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love one another,

1 Peter 1:22 (ESV)

²² Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart,

2 Peter 1:7 (ESV)

⁷ and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love.

Strangers

Genesis 18 (ESV)

¹ And the LORD appeared to him by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the door of his tent in the heat of the day. ² He lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, three men were standing in front of him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent door to meet them and bowed himself to the earth ³ and said, "O Lord, if I have found favor in your sight, do not pass by your servant. ⁴ Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree, ⁵ while I bring a morsel of bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant." So they said, "Do as you have said." ⁶ And Abraham went quickly into the tent to Sarah and said, "Quick! Three seahs of fine flour! Knead it, and make cakes." ⁷ And Abraham ran to

¹ Swanson, J. (1997). [*Dictionary of Biblical Languages with Semantic Domains: Greek \(New Testament\)*](#) (electronic ed.). Oak Harbor: Logos Research Systems, Inc.

² Thomas, R. L. (1998). [*New American Standard Hebrew-Aramaic and Greek dictionaries : updated edition*](#). Anaheim: Foundation Publications, Inc.

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the herd and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to a young man, who prepared it quickly.⁸ Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them. And he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

⁹ They said to him, “Where is Sarah your wife?” And he said, “She is in the tent.”¹⁰ The LORD said, “I will surely return to you about this time next year, and Sarah your wife shall have a son.” And Sarah was listening at the tent door behind him.¹¹ Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in years. The way of women had ceased to be with Sarah.¹² So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, “After I am worn out, and my lord is old, shall I have pleasure?”¹³ The LORD said to Abraham, “Why did Sarah laugh and say, ‘Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?’¹⁴ Is anything too hard for the LORD? At the appointed time I will return to you, about this time next year, and Sarah shall have a son.”¹⁵ But Sarah denied it, saying, “I did not laugh,” for she was afraid. He said, “No, but you did laugh.”

¹⁶ Then the men set out from there, and they looked down toward Sodom. And Abraham went with them to set them on their way.¹⁷ The LORD said, “Shall I hide from Abraham what I am about to do,¹⁸ seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him?¹⁹ For I have chosen him, that he may command his children and his household after him to keep the way of the LORD by doing righteousness and justice, so that the LORD may bring to Abraham what he has promised him.”²⁰ Then the LORD said, “Because the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is great and their sin is very grave,²¹ I will go down to see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me. And if not, I will know.”

²² So the men turned from there and went toward Sodom, but Abraham still stood before the LORD.²³ Then Abraham drew near and said, “Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked?²⁴ Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city. Will you then sweep away the place and not spare it for the fifty righteous who are in it?²⁵ Far be it from you to do such a thing, to put the righteous to death with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?”²⁶ And the LORD said, “If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will spare the whole place for their sake.”

²⁷ Abraham answered and said, “Behold, I have undertaken to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes.²⁸ Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking. Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?” And he said, “I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there.”²⁹ Again he spoke to him and said, “Suppose forty are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of forty I will not do it.”³⁰ Then he said, “Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak. Suppose thirty are found there.” He answered, “I will not do it, if I find thirty there.”³¹ He said, “Behold, I have undertaken to speak to the Lord. Suppose twenty are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it.”³² Then he said, “Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak again but this once. Suppose ten are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of ten I will not destroy it.”³³

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And the LORD went his way, when he had finished speaking to Abraham, and Abraham returned to his place.

Genesis 19 (ESV)

¹ The two angels came to Sodom in the evening, and Lot was sitting in the gate of Sodom. When Lot saw them, he rose to meet them and bowed himself with his face to the earth ² and said, “My lords, please turn aside to your servant’s house and spend the night and wash your feet. Then you may rise up early and go on your way.” They said, “No; we will spend the night in the town square.” ³ But he pressed them strongly; so they turned aside to him and entered his house. And he made them a feast and baked unleavened bread, and they ate.

⁴ But before they lay down, the men of the city, the men of Sodom, both young and old, all the people to the last man, surrounded the house. ⁵ And they called to Lot, “Where are the men who came to you tonight? Bring them out to us, that we may know them.” ⁶ Lot went out to the men at the entrance, shut the door after him, ⁷ and said, “I beg you, my brothers, do not act so wickedly. ⁸ Behold, I have two daughters who have not known any man. Let me bring them out to you, and do to them as you please. Only do nothing to these men, for they have come under the shelter of my roof.” ⁹ But they said, “Stand back!” And they said, “This fellow came to sojourn, and he has become the judge! Now we will deal worse with you than with them.” Then they pressed hard against the man Lot, and drew near to break the door down. ¹⁰ But the men reached out their hands and brought Lot into the house with them and shut the door. ¹¹ And they struck with blindness the men who were at the entrance of the house, both small and great, so that they wore themselves out groping for the door.

¹² Then the men said to Lot, “Have you anyone else here? Sons-in-law, sons, daughters, or anyone you have in the city, bring them out of the place. ¹³ For we are about to destroy this place, because the outcry against its people has become great before the LORD, and the LORD has sent us to destroy it.” ¹⁴ So Lot went out and said to his sons-in-law, who were to marry his daughters, “Up! Get out of this place, for the LORD is about to destroy the city.” But he seemed to his sons-in-law to be jesting.

¹⁵ As morning dawned, the angels urged Lot, saying, “Up! Take your wife and your two daughters who are here, lest you be swept away in the punishment of the city.” ¹⁶ But he lingered. So the men seized him and his wife and his two daughters by the hand, the LORD being merciful to him, and they brought him out and set him outside the city. ¹⁷ And as they brought them out, one said, “Escape for your life. Do not look back or stop anywhere in the valley. Escape to the hills, lest you be swept away.” ¹⁸ And Lot said to them, “Oh, no, my lords. ¹⁹ Behold, your servant has found favor in your sight, and you have shown me great kindness in saving my life. But I cannot escape to the hills, lest the disaster overtake me and I die. ²⁰ Behold, this city is near enough to flee to, and it is a little one. Let me escape there—is it not a little one?—and my life will be saved!” ²¹ He said to him, “Behold, I grant you this favor also, that I will not overthrow the city of

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which you have spoken. ²² Escape there quickly, for I can do nothing till you arrive there.” Therefore the name of the city was called Zoar.

²³ The sun had risen on the earth when Lot came to Zoar. ²⁴ Then the LORD rained on Sodom and Gomorrah sulfur and fire from the LORD out of heaven. ²⁵ And he overthrew those cities, and all the valley, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and what grew on the ground. ²⁶ But Lot’s wife, behind him, looked back, and she became a pillar of salt.

²⁷ And Abraham went early in the morning to the place where he had stood before the LORD. ²⁸ And he looked down toward Sodom and Gomorrah and toward all the land of the valley, and he looked and, behold, the smoke of the land went up like the smoke of a furnace.

²⁹ So it was that, when God destroyed the cities of the valley, God remembered Abraham and sent Lot out of the midst of the overthrow when he overthrew the cities in which Lot had lived.

³⁰ Now Lot went up out of Zoar and lived in the hills with his two daughters, for he was afraid to live in Zoar. So he lived in a cave with his two daughters. ³¹ And the firstborn said to the younger, “Our father is old, and there is not a man on earth to come in to us after the manner of all the earth. ³² Come, let us make our father drink wine, and we will lie with him, that we may preserve offspring from our father.” ³³ So they made their father drink wine that night. And the firstborn went in and lay with her father. He did not know when she lay down or when she arose.

³⁴ The next day, the firstborn said to the younger, “Behold, I lay last night with my father. Let us make him drink wine tonight also. Then you go in and lie with him, that we may preserve offspring from our father.” ³⁵ So they made their father drink wine that night also. And the younger arose and lay with him, and he did not know when she lay down or when she arose. ³⁶ Thus both the daughters of Lot became pregnant by their father. ³⁷ The firstborn bore a son and called his name Moab. He is the father of the Moabites to this day. ³⁸ The younger also bore a son and called his name Ben-ammi. He is the father of the Ammonites to this day.

Prisoners

1 Corinthians 12:26 (ESV)

²⁶ If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together.

Our Spouse

1 Corinthians 6:18–20 (ESV)

¹⁸ Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body. ¹⁹ Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, ²⁰ for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

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1 Corinthians 7:2 (ESV)

² But because of the temptation to sexual immorality, each man should have his own wife and each woman her own husband.

Money

1 Timothy 6:6–10 (ESV)

⁶ But godliness with contentment is great gain, ⁷ for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. ⁸ But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content. ⁹ But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. ¹⁰ For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs.

Philippians 4:10–13 (ESV)

¹⁰ I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at length you have revived your concern for me. You were indeed concerned for me, but you had no opportunity. ¹¹ Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. ¹² I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. ¹³ I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

JACOB

Genesis 28:15 (ESV)

¹⁵ Behold, I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land. For I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.”

ISRAEL

Deuteronomy 31:6 (ESV)

⁶ Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, for it is the LORD your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you.”

Deuteronomy 31:8 (ESV)

⁸ It is the LORD who goes before you. He will be with you; he will not leave you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed.”

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JOSHUA

Joshua 1:5 (ESV)

⁵ No man shall be able to stand before you all the days of your life. Just as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will not leave you or forsake you.

SOLOMON

1 Chronicles 28:20 (ESV)

²⁰ Then David said to Solomon his son, “Be strong and courageous and do it. Do not be afraid and do not be dismayed, for the LORD God, even my God, is with you. He will not leave you or forsake you, until all the work for the service of the house of the LORD is finished.

GOD HAS PROMISED TO BE OUR HELPER

Psalms 118:6 (ESV)

⁶ The LORD is on my side; I will not fear.
What can man do to me?

Legalism

1 Corinthians 8:8 (ESV)

⁸ Food will not commend us to God. We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do.

1 Corinthians 8:13 (ESV)

¹³ Therefore, if food makes my brother stumble, I will never eat meat, lest I make my brother stumble.

1 Corinthians 6:13 (ESV)

¹³ “Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food”—and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is not meant for sexual immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body.

Romans 14:17 (ESV)

¹⁷ For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking but of righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.