



"Between a Hard Place and The Rock:
Living in Light of Christ's Coming" (Part 3)

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1 Peter 4:8-9



7 The end of all things has come near; therefore, be of sound and sound mind for the purpose of prayer. 8 Above all, remain fervent in your love for one another, for love covers a multitude of sins. 9 Be hospitable to one another, without complaint. 10 As each one has received a spiritual gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. 11 If anyone speaks, [let him

speak] as the utterances of God; if anyone serves, [let him serve] out of the strength supplied by God; so that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory and power forever and ever. Amen!

– 1 Peter 4:7-11, As translated from the Greek New Testament by T. Bartolucci.

The Passage is Also Found on Page 182 of the New Testament Section of the Pew Bibles

Introduction

A mind fused on Christ's coming is focused on persevering in prayer, practicing love, and pursuing God's glory.

I. What is our Motivation? (7a)

A. To Live in Light of Christ's Coming

II. What is our Mission? (7b-11a)

A. To be Serious about Prayer (7b)

B. To be Selfless in our L_____ (8-11a)

1. The Priority of our love: *It is* _____ (8a)

2. The Nature of our love: *It is* _____ (8b)

3. The Depth of our love: *It is* _____ (8b)

4. The Effect of Our Love: *It is* _____ (8c)

5. The Practice of Our Love: *It is* _____ (9a)

a. This is the first practical way that love is demonstrated

b. The word "hospitality" literally means, "love of _____"

c. Loving strangers, particularly other Christians, was a foremost concern in the first few centuries

(1) But what is the focus of verse 9? Be hospitable to _____

(a) What does this mean, practically speaking? Some ideas from Rom. 12

6. The Attitude of Our Love: *It is* _____ (9b)

a. The noun *gongusmos* (γογγυσμος) means "murmuring," or "grumbling"

7. The Fruit of Our Love: *It is* _____ (10-11a)

Conclusion

"God has granted to each of us the special graces needed for the upbuilding of his church, so that we will do what he has indicated should be done, not only without complaint, but with joy." [Augustine]