

1. THE GREATNESS OF LOVE. 1 Cor. 13:13

1. The language implies that all three, faith, hope and love are great.
2. 1. Faith is great because it implies reason, truth, and the investigation of evidence.
2. Hope is great because it brightens the present by brightening the future. H OPE is great because it is described as "the anchor of the soul." Heb.6:19.

HOPE:

Hope is that power that makes the greatest trial of the present bearable as it focuses our attention...DESIRE...for better days and brighter climes. BUT LOVE IS THE GREATEST:

2. WHY LOVE IS SO GREAT.

1. It is the invisible badge of the Christian. UNLIKE BADGES WORN BY: Policemen; Sheriffs; Rangers; Game wardens which are visible.
2. It is great because it is the "Bond of perfectness." Col. 3:12-14

All these qualities lie within the circumference of love. Lacking love, THE BOND OF PERFECTNESS, they fall to pieces and are nothing.

3. THE NATURE OF THE LOVE JESUS HERE ENJOINS.

1. It is an acquired disposition which reveals itself in GOOD WILL; CONFIDENCE; and MUTUAL HELPFULNESS, in contrast to a disposition of COLDNESS, SUSPICION, MALICE AND ENVY.

2. It is a proof to the Christian himself. 1 John 3:14 John 13:35
3. It is a proof recognized by fellow-Christians. nes
 1. Love is the language of sympathy-responsive kindness. Romans 12:15

4. It is the proof, argument, language, which tends to convince the world. Love is the badge which distinguishes Christians from the world.

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