

Token no 55
Faith and Love
January 31, 2016
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This morning we will pick up at paragraphs **178** and **179** of brother Branham's sermon "**The Token**" and we will read them to begin our study.

Now, before we begin to read don't forget that his subject is the Token which is the very Life of Christ in the believer. So what he is going to say as he is closing down his sermon are words to help us to understand that God-Life that is in us, and how it lives itself out, or expresses the Life in our very lives.

*178 These words, Lord, I might not have said them right; and if I didn't, I pray that the Holy Ghost will take those words and present them the way that they should be presented, that the people will understand, and know without malice, and let them know that **love is corrective**. And that they might know that it's because of the hour that we're living in, and the close coming of the Lord; and we see the great red lights a flashing all over the world that **the time is at hand**. May the people receive the Holy Ghost this day. I pray and present them to You, in the Name of Jesus Christ. And let it be a Token to us as long as we live, which You promised it would be. It'd be easy to ask that, because You promised it would be, and I know it will. In Jesus' Name, we pray. Amen.*

*179 Now, with our bowed heads just a moment, with faith believing, I have prayed for you, all that I know how. I pray with sincerity, with all I know how to pray for. Look, I realize that... You know what? It's your tithe and offerings that I live by. It's your support here at the church that I have somebody to preach to. It's your love, and your amens, and your fellowship, and your kind words amongst out in the world there, where you go to the different states across the nation. It's your words that helps take the message. It's you. We're partners in this with Christ. We are brothers and sisters, and He is our King. And I love you. **Where I am, I want you to be**. I drive across the nation to speak to you a couple of times. I long to meet with you here on Sunday morning. I love you. I've always loved you. **Sometimes I have to speak real harsh, but it's only corrective**. You see? It's because I love you. See?*

This morning I would like to focus on his thoughts here in both paragraphs, because they seem to come together to make a theme, and that theme is that Love is corrective.

I remember, years ago when I taught school, I knew that Love is corrective, and that most kids today on the surface don't really want total freedom from their parents, they just want to test their parents love and concern for them, and so they try things to test the boundaries of that parental concern. And I was strict in my classes and when the guys in my class would get out of line I would do a little bit of rough housing with them. sometimes I would put my arm around their neck and squeeze a little bit tight and may rub their hair with my knuckles or something like that. Making correction but having fun with them at the same time.

But Once in a while I might grab them by the front of their jean jackets, and lift them off the floor and hold them up against the wall and talk to them eye to eye. But I never hit anyone with intention to hurt, or harm and they knew it. As a result I had kids come to me about their drug problems and other things they felt they couldn't talk to their parents about. Well, for a few months I quit doing this, and then one day the toughest kid in school came up to me and said, "Mr. K, why don't you manhandle us any more", And I said, "why do you want to know Mark?" And he said, "Because we don't get it at home and we need it." I felt like crying for that kid right there.

Tough on the outside, but on the inside still a young child seeking a nurturing corrective love. Yes, a nurturing corrective love. every child wants to know there boundaries, and that you care. And Mark being the toughest kid in school was no different.

Perseverant 62-0729 E- Faith and love is corrective. You see? It corrects.

Romans 12:9 *Let love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good. Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honor preferring one another; 11 Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord;*

I really like the way the NIV translates this scripture. **NIV Romans 12:19-11** *Love must be Sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in brotherly Love. Honor one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord.*

This morning we will speak concerning this *Sincere Love* that the Apostle Paul is speaking of.

Now, at first thought we don't usually associate Love with Faith. And we know Faith is a Revelation, something that is revealed. But a sincere Love for God is a Love for His Word. And this love is about being keeping His word which means living it.

Jesus said in **John 14:15** *If ye love me, keep my commandments.*

Moses taught us in the Book of Deuteronomy that we express our Love for God in obeying His Voice. **Deuteronomy 30:20** *That thou mayest love the LORD thy God, and that thou mayest obey his voice, and that thou mayest cleave unto him: for he is thy life, and the length of thy days: that thou mayest dwell in the land which the LORD sware unto thy fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.*

Now, in examining verse **Romans 12:9** we find the Apostle Paul tell us, **NIV Romans 12:19-11** *Love must be Sincere.* Now, the word *sincere* does not mean that we should put on the dog, and become sweet and engaging, or beguiling, but the word *sincere* means *genuine*, and *straightforward*. Therefore our Love must be *genuine*, and *straightforward*. In his next few words as Paul goes on to say, *Hate what is evil; cling to what is good.* And then *Be devoted to one another in brotherly Love.* And *Honor one another above your own selves.*

Now, let's focus our thoughts on those words, "*Love must be Sincere*". He did not say, "*should be*", as though you have a choice, but he said, "*Must be*". *Love must be sincere.*

Likewise the Apostle Peter taught us that our love should not be fake towards one another. He said, **1 Peter 1:22** *Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently:*

Notice, he said See that ye love one another with a pure heart, and fervently. Not unfeign, not pretentious, not put on, not fake, but pure love, a fervent pure love.

Now the word fervent means: *having or showing great warmth or intensity of spirit, feeling, enthusiasm,*

Now, the Apostle Paul doesn't just tells us we MUST love one another with a sincere love, but he also tells us what that "*sincere love*" is. He says it "*hates evil*", and it "*clings to*" or "*holds onto*" like glue to "*those things which are good*".

No one can claim to love their children and then watch their children do things which are evil. That is not love, not sincere love anyway. Because if you truly love your child you want the best for your child and it would never enter your mind to approve of bad behavior in your child which would produce an evil life in your child.

Now, everybody wants to talk about a love that is tolerant. Everyone is into tolerance these days unless it means a tolerance for Truth, and then they want nothing to do with it. You know it is politically correct these days to be tolerant of everything except True Christianity. That seems to be the only thing that is politically ok to bash, and that is because *True Christianity is True Love*, because *it is based on God's Love*, for *God is Love*. And for the people of this world to speak of loving as also being tolerant is so far from the Truth it is not even conceivable how they could associate the two together.

Because *how can you love what God hates? If God is Love then our Love should be a reflection of God.* And if our Love is a reflection of God who is Love, then perfect Love is a Perfect God. And If we do not even understand Who God is, then how could we ever understand Love.

God is Love, and God is the Word.

I Corinthians 13:8 ¶ *Love never fails: but whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away. 9 For we know in part, and we prophesy in part. 10 But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away.*

Now, that is what brother Branham taught. He said in his Sermon **Hebrews Chapter 5 And 6 657-0908M 188-130** *But when that which is perfect is come, that which is in part will be done away with." See, that's perfect. What is perfect? Love. What is love? God.*

Now, brother Branham taught us is that which is perfect is the Word. From his sermon, **Questions and Answers 64-0823E 1005 1 Corinthians 13** says this: *"When that which is perfect is come, that which is in part shall be done away with." So all these little things of jumping up-and-down like a kid, trying to talk in tongues, and all these other things, when that which is perfect... And we do have today, by God's help, **the perfect interpretation of the Word with Divine vindication.** Then that which is in part is done away with. "When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child; but when I become a man, I put away childish things." Amen.*

But the world wants nothing to do with this kind of Love that we are talking about this morning, because they want nothing to do with God, and He is Love, and He is the Word.

Jesus tells us the real reason why the world hates you in **John 15:17** *These things I command you, that ye love one another.*

First of all here we see Jesus tell us that we should love one another, not should, but He says *these Things I Command you*, so we are dealing with a command, and not just a nice thought.

But notice, immediately he lets us know the world will hate us. And He let's us know that the reason it will hate us is that it hated him first. *18 ¶ If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you. 19 If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hate you.*

In **John 15:19** we are told that the real reason the world hates you because you are the chosen of the Lord. So it really comes down to the same jealousy they had with Jesus.

I John 3:13 *Marvel not, my brethren, if the world hate you. 14 ¶ We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren.*

Notice He is telling us that the world takes the way of hate, but we must take the way of Love. It seems that the world so hates what is good and since there is so little that is good, the world is having a hay-day in hating. You can't but read the papers, and listen to the radio and here some add for a movie but what deals with someone hating somebody. The world is filled with hate and violence, and it is a strange and peculiar thing for brethren to be loving one another with Godly Love.

Now, when we examined **Romans 12** on Wednesday night we brought out the fact where Paul tells us: *I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, and that living sacrifice, the life will express itself as holy*, (and this holy state will be) *acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.*

And we examined these words "*Living sacrifice*" and found it comes from the Greek word, **Zao** and it means **zao {dzah'-o}** -- *to live -- to be alive*. Let me give you four more definitions of this word zao.

- 1) to live, to breathe, be among the living (not lifeless, not dead)*
- 2) to enjoy real life --to be active, blessed in the manner of the living and acting;*
- 3) living water, having vital power in itself and exerting the same upon the soul*
- 4) to be in full vigor; to be fresh, strong, efficient, to be active, powerful, efficacious (effective)*

Therefore, we are to be a living sacrifice, one that is alive, and real, and full of life. And that the real life which is an expression of the real genuine Holy Ghost will express Holiness, "*holy*", *acceptable unto God*, and the Apostle Paul said, and it is *which is your reasonable service*.

And we learned that this state of holiness is not a legalistic affair. It is not something you are doing for God, as though you must do it or suffer the consequences, but rather it is an atmosphere of Love and tender care in which you are living.

He said this *living sacrifice* is one that *is Holy*, and so we must understand what it means to be a living sacrifice that is holy.

Notice, He said, this living sacrifice is *Holy*. We are to present to God a living sacrifice that Holy.

Again, Paul tells us our *living sacrifice is Holy*, and Wednesday night we showed you that the Greek word for holy used here is "*hagios*" and is made up from two root words, "*hagnos*" which means *pure, chaste, clear, sacred, pure from carnality, modest, immaculate and clean*, And then another root word "*Thaipo*" which means, *to cherish with tender love. Or tender care.*

So we see that bringing these two words together we have *a purity* that comes as a result of *tender love and care*. Therefore, we have purity that comes from a motive of true *tender caring*, and we see modesty that comes from *tender loving*, and we see a sacredness in response to pure love. As brother Branham preached the message "*Convinced, then Concerned*", our being truly *convinced* brings about a true *concern*, and we have a life pure from carnality. One that is *modest, immaculate and clean*, not from a fear of retribution, nor from a fear of penalty, but as a result of an inner motive of Tender Love and Tender Care. This holiness Paul is speaking of is not the result of a rigid and disciplined life style, but a result of true caring and a genuinely true love for God.

How contrary this is to the disciplined and rigid life of the legalist. Those are people who through fear of retribution from a Holy God live in fear and walk in fear and tremble at the thought of eternal separation from God and Heaven. These are people who do right not because it is the right thing to do, but they do right because of fear of penalty for doing wrong.

But Paul said this sacrifice is *a Holy one*, and it comes from a different kind of motive. A motive that is stimulated by *tender Love* and *tender care* for the One Who gave them new birth.

Notice how different these two motives are. *Legalism binds you* while *Tender Love and care sets you free*, and yet they *both produce the same works*, and *the same outward acts*.

But Paul began with the thoughts of how that "*we are to present our bodies as a living sacrifice*", and so he's setting our minds on the importance of our presentation to God.

Now, in getting back to John, he continues by saying, "*He that loves not his brother abides in death. 15 Whosoever hates his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him. 16 Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren. 17 But whoso hath this world's good, and sees his brother have need, and shuts up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him? 18 My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth.*

So we see that a hatred for the brethren shows where its source came from, and that is in Cain. And why did Cain hate Abel? Because God accepted Abel's Sacrifice and not his own. And what is a sacrifice but their revelation of God's Word given back to God. The hatred that we see so abounding in the world today, was prophesied to come by Jesus Christ Himself. The disciples asked Jesus what would be the signs of the end of the world, and He answered that there would be two major signs. The first would be deception on the rise, and hatred between peoples. These would be the chief signs.

Matthew 24:3 *And as he sat upon the mount of Olives, the disciples came unto him privately, saying, Tell us, when shall these things be? and **what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world?*** 4 ¶ *And Jesus answered and said unto them, **Take heed that no man deceive you.*** (ok, so there is your first sign, deception). 5 *For many shall come in my name, saying, I am **Christ;*** (I am anointed) *and shall deceive many.* 6 *And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet.* 7 *For **nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom:*** and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places. 8 *All these [are] the beginning of sorrows.* 9 *Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: **and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake.*** 10 *And then shall **many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another.*** 11 *And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many.* 12 *And because iniquity shall abound, **the love of many shall wax cold.*** 13 *But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.* 14 *And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.*

Notice he tells us, **He that shall Endure to the end**, are the ones that shall be saved. And that is our warning I wish to set forth this morning. Because we are looking at two major signs we are at the end-time. Deception and hate, and never has there been more hate than what we are seeing on a daily basis.

I mean even the same political party can't get along within the same party. And it is not just that they cannot get along, but they end up hating each other for simple little differences. When I was younger it was common for people to say "let's agree to disagree" on that issue. But not today. If you don't see it exactly the same they end up hating one another and that is insanity. And it is one of the two major signs Jesus pointed to and told us would prevail at the end-time.

And people, we must die to self in order to not hate. It is too easy to let your flesh get entangled in the cares of this world which includes the politics of the day, or even church politics, or Message politics when there just shouldn't be any to begin with. If everyone would just be themselves and not try to please others by falling in line with the status quo, then we might come to a maturity in our lives, and become just what we are by the grace of God.

Jesus said, **Luke 6:22** *Blessed are ye, when men shall hate you, and when they shall **separate you from their company,*** and shall reproach you, and cast out your name as evil, for the Son of man's sake. 23 *Rejoice ye in that day, and leap for joy: for, behold, your reward is great in heaven: for in the like manner did their fathers unto the prophets.*

Instead of getting mad, or as some, getting even, he says rejoice and consider it in terms of storing up treasure for your future home.

Now, no matter how much money you have in stocks and bonds, you are going to lose it all when the great reset takes place. And one thing for certain, you can never take it with you. I want you to liken this what he is saying here to what has taken place in many people's lives over the centuries. During WW2, many Jewish people had to leave their homes in the middle of the night to escape the Nazi Gestapo, and they could not take their earthly treasures with them. If caught what treasures they did have was stolen and even the gold in their teeth was yanked out and they themselves were stripped of all clothing and gassed to death.

Jesus is telling us when the persecution comes, just lift up your heads and say "**Cha-Ching**", *for great is your treasure in heaven*. So the only way you can store up treasure in heaven is by your attitude on this side. You hear all the time men speaking of attaining wealth. They say, "get my book on the four step process to attaining wealth". Well, Jesus tells us his four step process to attaining a permanent heavenly treasure, *that moth cannot eat and rust cannot corrupt and no man can break in and steal*, because its stored for you in the heavenly vault of God.

In **Luke 6:26** we read, "*Woe unto you, when all men shall speak well of you! for so did their fathers to the false prophets. 27 ¶ But I say unto you which hear, (1) Love your enemies, (2) do good to them which hate you, 28 (3) Bless them that curse you, and (4) pray for them which despitefully use you. 29 And unto him that smiteth thee on the one cheek offer also the other; and him that taketh away thy cloke forbid not to take thy coat also. 30 Give to every man that asketh of thee; and of him that taketh away thy goods ask them not again. 31 And as ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise. 32 For if ye love them which love you, what thank have ye? for sinners also love those that love them. 33 And if ye do good to them which do good to you, what thank have ye? for sinners also do even the same. 34 And if ye lend to them of whom ye hope to receive, what thank have ye? for sinners also lend to sinners, to receive as much again. 35 But love ye your enemies, and do good, and lend, hoping for nothing again; and your reward shall be great, and ye shall be the children of the Highest: for he is kind unto the unthankful and to the evil. 36 Be ye therefore merciful, as your Father also is merciful. 37 ¶ Judge not, and ye shall not be judged: condemn not, and ye shall not be condemned: forgive, and ye shall be forgiven: 38 Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.*"

From his sermon, the **Rejected King 60-0515M 23-6** he said, "*Oh, my precious friend, my beloved, my darlings of the Gospel, my begotten children unto God, listen to me, your pastor. You... I wish there was some way I could explain it to you. There's no words. I couldn't find it. It's not found anywhere. But just beyond this last breath is the most glorious thing that you ever... There is no way to explain it. There's no way; I just can't do it. But whatever you do, friends, lay aside everything else till you get perfect love. Get to a spot that you can love everybody, every enemy, everything else. That one visit there to me has made me a different man. I can never, never, never be the same Brother Branham that I was.*"

And from his sermon, **Adoption 60-0522E 104 Thus Saith The Lord, it'll take perfect love to put you in that place, for that's all there was there.** No matter how many, how much religious demonstrations, how many good deeds you done, or **whatever you done, that won't count nothing on that day. It'll take perfect love. So whatever you do, you lay aside everything else, until you are just so filled with the love of God, till you can love those who hate you.** I'm just, as I said this morning, I was made... **My whole makeup is grace.** A lot of people say, "Now, you scratch my back, and I'll scratch yours. Yeah, you do something for me, and I'll do something for you." **That's not grace. Grace is, if your back is itching, I'll scratch it anyhow, whether you scratch mine or not; you slap me on the face, and say, "my back needs itching, needs scratching," I'll scratch it. See? That's it; do something. I don't believe in works; I believe that works is love. Works is--works is the manifestation that grace has taken place.** I don't live true to my wife because I believe she'd divorce me if I didn't; I live true to her because I love her.

And from the **Rejected King 60-0515M** brother Branham said, "*And I heard a voice then that spoke to me that was in the room, said, "This is what you preached was the Holy Ghost. **This is perfect love. And nothing can enter here without it.**" I am more determined than ever in my life that **it takes perfect love to enter there.** There was **no jealousy.** There was **no tiredness.** There was **no death.** Sickness could never in there. Mortality could never make you old, and they could not cry. It was just one joy, "Oh, my precious brother."*

So what is Love, and in fact what is perfect Love? We know that he taught us the that which is perfect is the perfect interpretation of the Word with Divine Vindication. And we know that the Apostle John taught us that God is Love. So we must never think of Love in terms of our human emotions. We must think of it in terms of God's definition.

In fact we read to you Wednesday night where brother Branham said the Holy Ghost is given to control our emotions.

He said, "*God's Spirit, the Holy Spirit, sets right in the center of your new Spirit, and **there It controls your emotions.** and to have a new heart, a new spirit, and His Spirit, part of the Logos in you controlling your **emotions...**"*

So therefore, love has nothing to do with your emotions.

We read in the Gospel of John that men are capable of loving, but notice what they love.

John 3:19 *And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and **men loved darkness rather than light,** because their deeds were evil. 20 For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reprov'd. 21 But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God.*

So it is not just love, but perfect Love that will bring us to that place he is talking about.

I John 2:9 *He that saith **he is in the light, and hates his brother, is in darkness even until now.** 10 He that loves his brother abides in the light, and there is none occasion of stumbling in him. 11 But he that hates his brother is in darkness, and walks in darkness, and knows not whither he goes, because that darkness has blinded his eyes.*

Therefore the Apostle John is tells us in **I John 4:17** how our love is made perfect. He says, "*Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because **as he is, so are we in this world.***

Our Love is made perfect as we are conformed tot he image of the first born son.

He says, 18 "*There is no fear in love; but **perfect love casts out fear:** because fear hath torment. **He that fears is not made perfect in love.** We love him, because he first loved us. 20 If a man say, I love God, and hates his brother, he is a liar: for he that loves not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen? 21 And this commandment have we from him, That **he who loves God love his brother also.***

Now, John said **perfect Love casts out all fear.** It is fear that causes men to war with one another, and it is uncertainty and fear of the uncertainty that causes people to do things in a self defense kind of thinking. And that is what causes strife and ill treatment toward one another is fear. But **perfect love casts all that away.**

Personal experience with God 54-0724 E-43 *This loving Him... Oh, we say, "We have faith. We have love." But if we had love, we'd have faith, for that is... "Perfect love casteth out all fear." And when fear is gone, faith is perfect.*

Paul said our "**Faith worketh by Love**". Therefore we must first have love in order to bring forth our faith. **Galatians 5:6** *For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision; but **faith which worketh by love.***

And brother Branham said in his **Questions and Answers 54-0103E 140-** *God is love, perfect love; but you don't know what love is. That's why today people don't know what faith is. God is love. He has to be in love; He's sovereign to His Word. And He has to keep His Word. He has to love you. And if He loves you, He's got to protect you.*

And Paul said in **Ephesians 3:17** *That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love,*

In his sermon, **Fellowship 56-0212 E-5** brother Branham said, *" And you can't have faith till you have love. That's just all there is to it. You just... **Perfect love casts out all fear,** and **As long as you got fear you can't have faith.** So you got to have love first. It drives all fear out, and then **faith comes in, takes the place of fear.** So when you have that you're coming right along.*

And notice that Love is the motivator of Faith. **Ephesians 6:23** *Peace be to the brethren, and **love with faith,** from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.*

Ephesians Church Age 60-1205 72 *"Ephesus" means, the very name "Ephesus" means "let go, relax, backslidden," called by God, "The backslidden church." God acknowledged first their works, their labor, and their patience. God rebuked their leaving their first love, for backsliding, and for no longer bearing Light. Ephesus was not a deceived church; **it failed itself by not continuing in perfect love.** 74 Summary of Ephesus' fruits: without love, led to apostasy.*

Brother Branham said in, **Explaining Healing And Jairus 54-0216 E-48** *"Electricity will light up, if you'll work according to the law of electricity. Is that right? If you had an artesian well on this side of the hill putting out thousands of gallons of water per minute, and over on that side of the hill, another hill, you've got a crop burning up needing that water. Now, no matter how much you screamed to water, "Go up on the hill and water that crop," it'll never do it. But if you work according to the way of gravitation and run that water over on the hill, it'll water the crop. Is that right? But you've got to work according to the law of gravitation. Well now, if God is here all in this building, right now. Do you believe that? We're all conscious, You're conscious that God is here. Now, the only thing that we can do is work according to the law of God for our healing. Is that right? **What is the law of God? His love.** "Perfect love cast out all fear." **Love and faith is the same thing. See? Love, perfect love casts out all fear which gives faith.** You see?*

Even the Apostle Paul spoke of Love and Faith as being the same in **I Thessaloninas 5:8** *But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on **the breastplate of faith and love;** and for an helmet, the hope of salvation.* Notice it is not just the breastplate of faith which is always quoted, but **the breastplate of faith and love.**

In **I Timothy 1:14** we read, *"And the grace of our Lord was exceeding abundant **with faith and love** which is in Christ Jesus".*

Again in **II Timothy 1:13** Paul says, *Hold fast the form of sound words, which thou hast heard of me, **in faith and love** which is in Christ Jesus.*

And once more Paul ties faith and Love together in **Philemon 1:4** *I thank my God, making mention of thee always in my prayers, 5 Hearing of **thy love and faith**, which thou hast toward the Lord Jesus, and toward all saints;*

Now, Brother Branham said in his sermon. **Way To Have Fellowship 55-1009 E-18** *"I'd rather have a church... Listen, just a moment. I would rather have a church that knows nothing about any spiritual gift, and **just be so in love with each other and with Christ, I'd rather have that than every spiritual gift operating in the church.** Now, that might sound hard in a Pentecostal group, but I would rather have it. **Where there is gifts, they'll fail. Where there is gifts, they'll bring confusion. Where there is gifts, they can be questioned.** But **where there is love, it is perfect.** That's right. And if you had perfect love you'd have perfect gifts. That's right. So work first with love. That brings fellowship, and fellowship brings gifts."*

And again he said in his sermon called **LOVE 58-0313 E-20** *"Now, perfect love casts out fear, and **that's the reason people won't take God at His Word for healing. They don't love Him well enough,** because you're scared He won't keep His Word. That's the reason that people fear somebody else will say something against them if they receive the Holy Spirit. They're afraid somebody will laugh and make fun. But when love comes in..."*

Perfect Faith 63-0825E 132 *"And when we were sinners, alienated, without God, in the world, in that muck of mud as I talked about this morning, God come to us. God sought you; you never sought God. "No man can come to Me except the Father draws him first." And **God came down in that muck, what you were, and sought you out and brought you out. That ought to create a perfect love.** Look what you was, and look what you are. What did that? Somebody that loved you. Can't you have faith in what He's promised you then? **Real genuine love will create a confidence in His Word.** He caught me when I was nothing. I'm still nothing, but I'm in His hand. See? He caught me. And **He loved me when I was unlovable.** He loved you when you was unlovable, but He changed you.*

Perfect Faith 63-0825E *Faith and love is relations, because **you can't have faith unless you've got love, because your faith is in a God Who is the very essence of love. Faith and love works together.***

In closing I would like to show you how that the apostle Paul expresses this same thought as brother Branham both the letters he wrote to the Thessalonians.

In **1 Thessalonians 1:2** Paul expresses how that our Love and our Faith are motivators of our works and labor. **2** *We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers; 3 Remembering without ceasing **your work of faith**, and **labour of love**, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ, in the sight of God and our Father; 4 Knowing, brethren beloved, your election of God. 5 For our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost, and in much assurance; as ye know what manner of men we were among you for your sake. 6 And ye became followers of us, and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Ghost: 7 So that ye were ensamples to all that believe in Macedonia and Achaia.*

Now, in reading from the **Wuest Translation**, we get a better appreciation for this scripture.

1 Thessalonians 1: 4 Wuest "*Remembering unceasingly your **works produced and characterized by the Faith** which is yours, and **your toil which is motivated and characterized by your divine and self sacrificial Love**, and your patient endurance under trials which finds its source in your hope which rests in our Lord Jesus Christ in the presence of God, even the father.*"

So we see that **our faith produces our works** and **our love shapes and motivates** our toil, our effort, our energy to do the work.

Again Paul says in **II Thessalonians 1:3** *We are bound to thank God always for you, brethren, as it is meet, because that your **faith grows** exceedingly, and **the love of every one of you all toward each other abounds**; 4 So that we ourselves glory in you in the churches of God for your patience and faith in all your persecutions and tribulations that ye endure: 5 ¶ Which is a manifest token of the righteous judgment of God, that ye may be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which ye also suffer: 6 Seeing it is a righteous thing with God to recompense tribulation to them that trouble you; 7 And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, 8 In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: 9 Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power; 10 When he shall come to be glorified in his saints, and to be admired in all them that believe (because our testimony among you was believed) in that day. 11 ¶ Wherefore also we pray always for you, that our God would count you worthy of this calling, and fulfill all the good pleasure of his goodness, and **the work of faith with power**: 12 That the name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in you, and ye in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.*

In **Galatians 5:6** Paul said, ...**but faith which worketh by love**. Then we see that Faith (Revelation itself) is **energized by love**. Notice Paul tells us again that **our Faith worketh by Love**. The word for **worketh** is a Greek word **energeo** and it means energizes. So Paul is saying here: **Our Faith is energized by Love**,

I Thessalonians 2:13 *For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, **the word of God, which effectually worketh** (effectually means energized) also in you that believe.*

Wisdom Versus Faith 62-0401 73-2 *The disciples had It sowed into them, then **the Spirit come to energize the Word**. See? "**Not by power, not by might, not by wisdom, not by understanding, not by this, not by that, but by My Spirit I will energize My Word. By My Spirit, says the Lord.**" It's the water of **the Word of faith that energizes the Word of God and makes It work**,*

So in closing we see that **"our Faith works by Love"**. In other words, **Love is the motivating force that brings our faith into expression**. It is love that takes a-hold of your faith and moves it from a dormant passive Faith into a vibrant active faith.

Because Faith is not about self, and neither is Eternal Life living for self, but eternal Life is living for others. It's not the works that avail anything, but **the works which have been produced or motivated by Love** that counts.

Let us pray...