

RENEWAL MINISTRIES of Colorado Springs

Love keeps no Records of Wrong 1 Corinthians 13 Series, Part 8

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Jesus our standard of love

Love is a principle of action rather than of emotion. It's purpose is to honor and benefit others.

John 13:34-35 (NIV) “A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. ³⁵By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”

“It is a matter of doing things for people out of compassion for their need, whether or not we feel personal affection for them. It is by their active love to one another that Jesus' disciples are to be recognized.”

—Concise Theology

Love does not keep a record of the wrongs do to it.

1 Corinthians 13:5b (NASB) does not take into account a wrong *suffered*,

1 Corinthians 13:5b (NLT) keeps no record of when it has been wronged.

1 Corinthians 13:5b (NIV) keeps no record of wrongs.

1 Corinthians 13:5b (KJV) thinketh no evil;

1 Corinthians 13:5b (YLT) doth not impute evil,

G3049 λογίζομαι *logizomai* [*log-id'-zom-ahēē*]

Middle voice from G3056; to *take an inventory*, that is, *estimate* (literally or figuratively):—conclude, (ac-)count (of), + despise, esteem, impute, lay, number, reason, reckon, suppose, think (on).

Thinketh no evil (οὐ λογίζεται τὸ κακόν)

Lit., reckoneth not the evil. Rev., *taketh not account of*. The evil; namely, that which is done to love. “Love, instead of entering evil as a debt in its account-book, voluntarily passes the sponge over what it endures” (Godet).

—Vincent's Word Studies

Taketh not account of evil (*ou logizetai to kakon*). Old verb from *logos*, to count up, to take account of as in a ledger or notebook, “the evil” (*to kakon*) done to love with a view to settling the account.

—Word Pictures of the New Testament

The Ledger of I. M. Listing

Date	Description	Debit	Credit	Balance
10/02	Did not receive recognition	250	0	-250
01/03	Confidence broken-gossip	1500	0	-1750
05/03	Thanked me for job well done	1	To small to matter	
08/03	Walked by and did not say hello	75	0	-1830

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Thinketh no evil—That is, puts the best possible construction on the motives and the conduct of others. This expression also is “comparative.” It means that love, or that a person under the influence of love, is not malicious, censorious, disposed to find fault, or to impute improper motives to others...it puts the best possible construction on the conduct of others, and supposes, as far as can be done, that it was in consistency with honesty, truth, friendship, and love. The Greek word (λογίζεται *logizetai*) is that which is commonly rendered “impute,” and is correctly rendered here “thinketh.” It means, does not reckon, charge, or impute to a man any evil intention or design. We desire to think well of the man whom we love; nor will we think ill of his motives, opinions, or conduct until we are compelled to do so by the most unbreakable evidence. True religion, therefore, will prompt to charitable judging; nor is there a more striking evidence of the destitution of true religion than a disposition to impute the worst motives and opinions to a man.

—Barnes’ Notes on the New Testament

Thinketh no evil—Ουλογιζεται το κακον. “Believes no evil where no evil seems.” Never supposes that a good action may have a bad motive; gives every man credit for his profession of religion, uprightness, godly zeal, etc., while nothing is seen in his conduct or in his spirit inconsistent with this profession. His heart is so governed and influenced by the love of God, that he cannot think of evil but where it appears. The original implies that he does not invent or devise any evil; or, does not reason on any particular act or word so as to infer evil from it; for this would destroy his love to his brother; it would be ruinous to charity and benevolence.

—Adam Clark Commentary on the New Testament

- Should we keep a record of the wrongs that we have suffered?
- Are you suspicious of peoples motives when they do good?
- Do you frequently replay the events in your mind or draw others in to the situation by retelling your story?
- Do you find your self thinking of how you will get even?
- If someone continually thinks on the injustices that they have received, will it affect their character?
- If so . . . How?

Ambassadors of Christ’s love

Luke 23:34 (NIV) Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.” And they divided up his clothes by casting lots.

2 Corinthians 5:18-20 (NIV) All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: ¹⁹that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men’s sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. ²⁰We are therefore Christ’s ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ’s behalf: Be reconciled to God.

The greatest is love

1 Corinthians 12:31 (NIV) But eagerly desire the greater gifts. And now I will show you the most excellent way.

1 Corinthians 13:6-8, 13 (NIV) Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. ⁷It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. ⁸Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away...¹³And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.