

# **I Corinthians**

## **(31) The Duration of Our Gifts**

1 Cor 13:4-13

*4 Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. 5 It is not rude; it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered; it keeps no record of wrongs. 6 Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. 7 It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.*

*8 Love 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. 9 For we know in part and we prophesy in part, 10 but when perfection comes, the imperfect disappears. 11 When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put childish ways behind me. 12 Now we see but a poor reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.*

*13 And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.* NIV

### **Why Love is the Greatest Gift...13:4-8**

After the detailed description of genuine love (agape, 13:4-7), what is the summary? 13:8

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What is the fundamental reason for this permanence? IJn.4:8, 16

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What is the fundamental comparison between love and prophecies, tongues, knowledge? 13:8

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Prophecies and knowledge both use ‘katarego’: made to stop/end. What’s implied here? 13:11

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In contrast, tongues use pauo: to stop/cease *in and of itself*. What’s implied here?

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So, while all (3) are temporary what does the use of ‘katarego’ and ‘pauo’ indicate?

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### **The duration of Spiritual Gifts...13:9-13**

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What is the clear teaching of the duration of knowledge and prophesy? 13:9-10

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As far as *new prophecy*, what has already happened? Rev.22:18

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What does Paul give as a definition of ‘katagego’? 13:11

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What is his next observation of knowledge and prophecy? 13:12

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How does he summarize these thoughts? 13:13

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## (31) The Duration of Our Gifts

1 Cor 13:4-13

4 Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. 5 It is not rude; it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered; it keeps no record of wrongs. 6 Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. 7 It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

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### **Why Love is the Greatest Gift...13:4-8**

After the detailed description of genuine love (agape, 13:4-7), what is the summary? 13:8a

**The conclusion is that love (agape) never (at any time) fails (falls or loses authority).**

What is the fundamental reason for this permanence? IJn.4:8, 16

**God is love, agape love. It is His very nature. As long as He exists, agape love exists!**

What is the fundamental comparison between love and prophecies, tongues, knowledge? 13:8

**While love is permanent these other (3) are temporary. The question is not if, but when!**

Prophecies and knowledge both use ‘katarego’: made to stop/end. What’s implied here? 13:11

**Both of these gifts will be made to stop by something or someone else. See 13:10.**

In contrast, tongues use pauo: to stop/cease *in and of itself*. What’s implied here?

**The gift of tongues has a built-in stop! Like a battery, it ‘discharges’. Not like first two.**

So, while all (3) are temporary what does the use of ‘katarego’ and ‘pauo’ indicate?

**All (3) are temporary but their duration is different. Tongues is first to ‘run out’.**

### **The duration of Spiritual Gifts...13:9-13**

What is the clear teaching of the duration of knowledge and prophesy? 13:9-10

**They are only partial, but when perfection comes they’re made to stop (katarego).**

As far as *new prophecy*, what has already happened? Rev.22:18

**God has closed this as of John’s letter, the Revelation of Jesus Christ. No more.**

What does Paul give as a definition of ‘katagego’? 13:11

**He likens it to growing up. Puts childhood things behind him. He outgrows them.**

What is his next observation of knowledge and prophecy? 13:12

**Even our best ‘vision’ is blurry. But when perfection comes, we’ll see and know clearly.**

How does he summarize these thoughts? 13:13

**These three remain: faith, hope, and love. But the greatest of these is love (agape)!**