



"Between a Hard Place and The Rock:  
Living in Light of Christ's Coming" (Part 4)

12081Pe4.10-11(92)

1 Peter 4:10-11



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.

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

**Introduction - The "Didache" and the exhortation toward readiness**

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 Love (8-11a)

1. The Priority of our love: *It is* First (8a)
2. The Nature of our love: *It is* Inate (8b)
3. The Depth of our love: *It is* Fervent (8b)
4. The Effect of Our Love: *It is* Forgiving (8c)

a. How are we doing at Clarkson? The balance of love and truth (cf. 3 John 1-8)

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

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

a. The word *gongusmos* (γογγυσμος) - murmuring, grumbling

- (1) Onomatopoeic words - such as this Greek noun *gongusmos* (like our English words "murmuring" or "grumbling")
- (2) Account of Korah's rebellion in Numbers 16

*Do you think God takes grumbling and complaining seriously?*

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

a. The nature of the gift is that is spiritual and by grace

- (1) What is a *charisma*? - Word literally means "a gift" or "a gift of grace"
- (2) It is related to the word for grace - "Grace" = *charis*; "gift" = *charisma*

(a) Both ideas (grace and gift) come together in Romans 6:23

(3) But here it's not talking about the gift of salvation

b. The recipient of the gift is that it is given to "each one"

c. The definition of the gift is "God-given abilities to minister to others"

- (1) Note the lists of various gifts and the connection to love: Romans 12:3-13; 1 Corinthians 12:4-13:1; Ephesians 4:11-15

d. The object (focus) of the gift is outward, directed toward others

(1) There are at least 4 different ways that the term "serve" is used in the N.T.

1) Providing meals (Matt. 8:15; Mark 1:31; Luke 4:39, 10:40, 12:37, 17:8; John 12:2; Acts 6:2); 2) Visiting those in prison (Matt. 25:44; 2 Tim. 1:18); 3) Providing financial support (Luke 8:3; Rom. 15:25; 2 Cor. 8:19-20); 4) General works of service (Matt. 20:28; Mark 10:45; Luke 22:26-27; John 12:26; 2 Cor. 3:3; 1 Tim. 3:10,13; Philem.13; Heb. 6:10).

e. The responsibility of the gift, it is a stewardship from God

### **III. What is our Mandate? (11b)**

A. That in everything God be glorified!

### **Conclusion**