



"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**