

Signs of Sincere Love ***Romans 12:9-13***

Loving conduct towards other believers appears to be the theme of verses 9-13. Note a similarity here with I Cor. chapters 12 and 13.

Sincere love despises evil & clings to what is good. 9

♦ Love w/o hypocrisy (believers: I Pt. 1:22, I Thess. 4:9, Jn. 13:34,35)

Note how the 2nd half of these verses each connect to the 1st half.

♦ Love requires hating evil and clinging to what is good, Amos 5:15.

Sincere love treats believers as family & honors them. 10

♦ Believers are truly our family, Gal. 6:10, II Pt. 1:7, I Tim. 5:1,2.

♦ Brotherly love requires showing honor to other believers, Phi. 2:3.

Sincere love diligently serves the Lord with great zeal. 11

♦ Don't let your spiritual zeal give way to laziness, Matt. 25:26.

♦ Avoiding laziness requires staying fervent in slave-service, 6:22.

Sincere love endures hardship through hope & prayer. 12

♦ We are called to rejoice in hope, 5:1, I Pt. 1:3,6, I Thess. 5:16-18

♦ Being able to rejoice in hardship requires perseverance and prayer, 5:2-5, 8:25, I Thess. 5:16-18, Js. 5:13.

Sincere love is generous to the needy & hospitable. 13

♦ Helping needy believers: Gal. 6:10, I Tim. 5:3, 6:18, I Jn. 3:16-18

♦ Hospitality is required, I Tim. 3:2, I Pt. 4:9, Heb. 13:2. Why so?

Love must be sincere (state)
what is evil?
= cling TO WHAT IS good
Be devoted to one another in love
Honor one another above yourselves
NEVER be lacking in zeal, BUT KEEP your serving
spiritual fervor, THE Lord
BE joyful in hope
PATIENT IN AFFLICTION, faithful in prayer
share with the Lord's people who are in NEED
Practice Hospitality

In the New Testament, love is more of a verb than a noun. It has more to do with acting than with feeling. The call to love is not so much a call to a certain state of feeling as it is to a quality of action.

--R.C. Sproul