Not Easily Angered, Thinks No Evil, Rejoices

Buddy Payne · 1 Corinthians 13:4–7 · Series: **The Greatest of These Is Love**

INTRODUCTION

- What we've been studying this series is a portrait of Jesus Christ Himself.
- Love is a deed in God's dictionary, and we need to learn all we can about how love acts.
- Now to him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think.

1 Love Is Not Provoked

James 1:19–20; Romans 12:18–19; Proverbs 29:11

- Love is not quick to take offense.
- Love is even handed. It doesn't fly off the handle. It doesn't blow up.
- Let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath, for the wrath of man does not produce the righteousness of God.
- Outbursts of anger is just another form of selfishness.
- Anger is one of the most dangerous emotions we have. And what love does is it tames that emotion.
- If you do nothing else in learning to control anger, learn to stop your mouth before it's too late.

2 Love Thinks No Evil

Romans 4:5–8

- It literally means to reckon or take account.
- Love does not keep account of evil. Love keeps no score of wrongs.
- Blessed is the man to whom the Lord shall not impute sin.
- The Lord doesn't keep records when we've been forgiven.
- Love is hasty to forgive and to put things in the past.
- God doesn't treat us like we treat each other. And thanks be to God that he doesn't.

3 Love Does Not Rejoice in Iniquity

Psalm 69:9

- Love takes no pleasure in iniquity. Iniquity, adikia, literally unrighteousness.
- Neither does love take any joy in the sin of other people.
- Love hates the sin, it hates the way that sin hurts God, and it hates the way that sin hurts the sinner himself.
- There are times when silence is yellow. Times when we ought to stand up on our feet and regardless of the consequences, challenge the gross evils of our time.
- Love doesn't rejoice in iniquity. It is sickened by it.

- Just because it's the truth doesn't mean you have to tell it. Love learns to make those judgments because it doesn't rejoice in iniquity.

4 Love Rejoices in the Truth

2 John 1:6; 2 John 1:9–10

- It rejoices when the truth is taught and when the truth is lived.
- Love the way God describes, does not compromise one iota with truth.
- This is love, that we walk according to his commandments.
- How does love react when somebody's twisting the truth? It will have no part in it.
- Love rejoices in the truth. It loves to bring out the best in people.

> THE CHALLENGE
>
> **If we could just learn to put into practice those things, and whether we feel like it or not, to act today like love acts, what a difference it'll make in this whole world, in this congregation, in our homes.**

MY NOTES