



Don't Judge a Book by Its Cover

By Johnny Caruso on April 15, 2022

TODAY'S READING: 1 Corinthians 13

The silversmiths of ancient Corinth were well known for their beautiful hand-polished figurines and hand-made gods. You remember, Paul got in trouble with the silversmiths when he dug into their profits by telling the people they did not need to worship hand graven images. One of the things the silversmiths made was mirrors. They are a bad comparison to the mirrors today, but you could see your reflection. Look into a piece of aluminum foil to see what they saw.

Paul used this as an illustration of how limited our ability is to fully see and understand spiritual things this side of heaven. As His disciples, we are also called to reflect Jesus to the world around us. But, like the Corinthian mirrors, we too can only give off a poorly reflected image of Him. However, someday soon, when the Lord returns or we arrive in heaven, we will be changed; and then we will finally see God fully, not just as a poorly reflected image. Then there will be no need for the gifts of the Spirit.

In this world, we are all completely understood by God. ***Psalm 139 reminds us that even our thoughts, before being expressed as words, are already known to Him.*** But heaven will be a place where we will also be able to understand Him completely. It will be a place for the expression of perfect love. We will at last be capable of both showing love toward God and each other perfectly.

We are currently growing in faith, hope and love here on planet earth; but in heaven, it will be love alone, since faith and hope will be completed. Paul wrote, "the greatest of these is love," to reveal to the Corinthians the missing ingredient in their church. As important as the gifts of the Spirit are, love is the evidence of genuine maturity. The gifts will one day pass away because they are for the body of Christ while here, but love will never pass away; it will remain forever.

PRAYER: LORD, we desperately need Your love in our hearts again this day. Please help us reflect You more accurately in our actions, words and deeds.

TOMORROW'S READING: Weekend is for catch-up and review.

MONDAY'S READING: 1 Corinthians 14

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