

Comments About Romans 12:10

This article is from the "Among Friends" section of the Church of God Big Sandy's website, churchofgodbigandy.com. It was posted for the weekend of June 29, 2019.

By Dave Havir

BIG SANDY, Texas—Recently, I began a discussion about the words of the apostle Paul found in Romans 12. It is my perspective that Paul's writings in chapters 1-11 could be classified more as comments about doctrine and spiritual concepts, whereas the words in chapter 12 can be viewed more as Christian-living topics.

Last week, we discussed Romans 12:9. This article will discuss Romans 12:10.

Positive words

Notice what Paul wrote in Romans 12:10.

Romans 12:10—"Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another."

Kindness and brotherly love

Here are some verses that discuss kindness and brotherly love.

1 Corinthians 13:4-7—"Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things."

Ephesians 4:31-32—"Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice. And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God in Christ forgave you."

Colossians 3:12-14—"Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do. But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection."

1 John 2:9-11—"He who says he is in the light, and hates his brother, is in darkness until now. He who loves his brother abides in the light, and there is

no cause for stumbling in him. But he who hates his brother is in darkness and walks in darkness, and does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes.”

1 John 3:10—“In this the children of God and the children of the devil are manifest: Whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is he who does not love his brother.”

1 John 3:14-15—“We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love the brethren. He who does not love his brother abides in death. Whoever hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him.”

1 John 4:20-21—“If someone says, ‘I love God,’ and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen? And this commandment we have from Him: that he who loves God must love his brother also.”

Preference to one another

Before we notice some verses about giving preference toward other people, let’s acknowledge the clear teaching that a disciple should have self-respect.

Matthew 22:39—“And the second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ ”

It is from a foundation of self-respect that true love can flow from you to another person.

If a person does not respect himself, he will not respect others. If a person belittles himself, he will have a tendency to belittle others.

Philippians 2:1-4—“Therefore if there is any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and mercy, fulfill my joy by being like-minded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others.”