

# CONTRASTING AGAPE

## 1 Corinthians 13:8-10

I. SPIRITUAL GIFTS ARE \_\_\_\_\_ , BUT LOVE IS \_\_\_\_\_

A. Love Never \_\_\_\_\_

- 1) This phrase sounds so right but “fails” means \_\_\_\_\_ to the ground, like leaves in autumn
- 2) “Love never fails” does not mean that God promises that *agape* love will always \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) Paul is emphasizing that love is \_\_\_\_\_; love is eternal because it is the nature of God
- 4) We invest in the eternal when we cultivate \_\_\_\_\_ in our character; it will live on in us forever

B. Spiritual Gifts Will \_\_\_\_\_

- 1) With each of these 3 gifts, Paul uses grammar that disses them because they are \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) When Paul says prophecies will \_\_\_\_\_ it is not the same word in the original as “love never fails”
  - a) This verb means “to make something \_\_\_\_\_ “ like a hand grenade that will not explode
  - b) This verb is in the \_\_\_\_\_ tense: prophecies will be made inoperative at some future moment
  - c) The verb is in the \_\_\_\_\_ voice: something will act on prophecies to make them inoperative
  - d) This same verb is used at the end of v.8: “whether there is knowledge, it will become \_\_\_\_\_
  - e) This same verb is used a third time at the end of v. \_\_\_\_ (even though the NJKV translates all 3 by different English words): “that which is in part will be done away—will be made inoperative.”
- 3) Translating the verbs in these verses consistently points up that \_\_\_\_\_ is the odd man out
  - a) A different verb is used of tongues in v.8: “whether there are tongues, they will \_\_\_\_\_ “
  - b) This verb is in the \_\_\_\_\_ voice: tongues will cease on their own, caused by something w/in
  - c) Paul intentionally put the gift of tongues in a different \_\_\_\_\_ than prophecy and knowledge
  - d) So we must question when the gift of tongues ceases on its own: the end of the \_\_\_\_\_
    - i) The writings of church leaders from 95-400 AD indicate that tongues had already \_\_\_\_\_
    - ii) A chronological study of the NT shows that tongues is mentioned only in the \_\_\_\_\_ books

II. SPIRITUAL GIFTS ARE \_\_\_\_\_ , BUT THE \_\_\_\_\_ IS COMING

A. We Know in \_\_\_\_\_ and We Prophecy in \_\_\_\_\_

- 1) Both these gifts are connected with \_\_\_\_\_ from God, part of which ended up in the NT
- 2) The revelation that we have via these gifts is \_\_\_\_\_: “in part” has 2 different meanings:
  - a) We know only part of what there is to know about God: our minds are finite and God is \_\_\_\_\_
  - b) “We know in part” has a second meaning: we know \_\_\_\_\_ by part, we know competing truths
  - c) We must balance certainty with \_\_\_\_\_ because we don’t know what we don’t know about God

B. Until “That Which Is \_\_\_\_\_ Has Come”

- 1) The word “perfect” comes from a root that means “goal”—that which has \_\_\_\_\_ its goal.
- 2) This word describes the future \_\_\_\_\_ that will make spiritual gifts like prophecy and knowledge inoperative: when will the plan of God reach its goal so that spiritual gifts are no longer necessary?
- 3) “That which is perfect” is also used in this verse as the opposite to that which is \_\_\_\_\_  
When will an event take place in the future which will make our knowledge of God \_\_\_\_\_ ?