

<p>Introduction: One of the most common questions asked is what does a Christians life in this world suppose to look like? Cf. John 17:9-11, 13-17. Romans 12:1 the word present carries the idea of "to come and stand beside, to offer, to approve." As Christians we are to stand and offer and approve of Biblical truth and standards. We are to be representatives of God. Application: What is good and acceptable and perfect (vs. 2)? Furthermore, vs. 6-8, we are to use our gifts as we have been given to us accordingly. There are traits that should be known of the Christian.</p>			
<p>Pt. 1 - Love Without Hypocrisy - 1 John 4:7-11. This connects to vs. 10 which literally means "outdo one another in showing honor." This is brotherly love - SEE NOTE 1, cf. Galatians 5:22, 1 Peter 4:8. Christian love is to be pure and sincere.</p>	<p>Pt. 2 - This Love Abhors Evil And Clings To Good</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Abhor only appears once in Scripture and it's here. It means to "detest." It also carries the idea of "horror." - Biblical love does not affirm sinful acts or behaviors. 	<p>Pt. 3 - Whatever You Do... Do So With God Enjoying Might (Vs. 11).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ecclesiastes 9:10. We are to not be slothful or lagging, Galatians 6:10; 2 Thess. 3:13, Proverbs 18:9, Ephesians 5:15-16 	<p>Pt. 4 - Rejoicing In Hope - Vs. 12a</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rejoicing (verb - expresses action) in two things, of His return and our redemption, 2 Timothy 4:8. - Why are your hope fixed on temporal things?
<p>Pt. 5 - Patient and (Persevering) In Tribulation - Vs 12b</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How do we persevere? - *See Note on order of the original verbs. - Because of our hope in Christ. Because of His promises. Because of His Word, cf. Isaiah 40:7-8 	<p>Pt. 6 - Devoted To Prayer - Vs. 12c</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rejoicing in hope brings us to persevere in trials and that brings our lives to a devotion to prayer. - Lamentations 3:55,57 - Devoted "remaining in a place, or of persisting in a certain course of action." 		<p>Pt. 7 - The Fruit Of Hope And Joy And Redemption Flow Into Compassion - Vs. 13</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - **Hodges comment - Hebrews 13:2, see note, cf. 1 Peter 4:9
<p>Conclusion/Application: The urging of vs. 1 is only applicable by the conjunction and result of vs. 2, we must be transformed not conformed. And he is speaking to the brethren! Conformed means to "comply with." Transformed "make a thorough or dramatic change in the form, appearance, or character of." Only by a Holy God who can impute the righteousness of Christ to you can transform your dead body to life. And if this transformation has occurred, it will be evident and fruitful, cf. Colossians 3:1-3.</p>			

John 17:9-11, "I ask on their behalf; I do not ask on behalf of the world, but of those whom You have given Me; for they are Yours; and all things that are Mine are Yours, and Yours are Mine; and I have been glorified in them. I am no longer in the world; and yet they themselves are in the world, and I come to You. Holy Father, keep them in Your name, the name which You have given Me, that they may be one even as We are." John 17:13-17, "But now I come to You; and these things I speak in the world so that they may have My joy made full in themselves. I have given them Your word; and the world has hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. I do not ask You to take them out of the world, but to keep them from the evil one. They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth." 1 John 4:7-11, "Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. The one who does not love does not know God, for God is love. By this the love of God was manifested in us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world so that we might live through Him. In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another."

NOTE 1 - Vs. 10 brotherly love is the honor and affection towards brothers in Christ. Vs. 9 context for love displays a different response i.e. abhorring what is evil and clinging to what is good. Love for a spouse, children and brethren is all different in the way of application. [Galatians 5:22](#), "But the fruit of the Spirit is love." [1 Peter 4:8](#), "Above all, keep fervent in your love for one another, because love covers a multitude of sins."

[Ecclesiastes 9:10](#), "Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might." [Galatians 6:10](#), "So then, while we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, and especially to those who are of the household of the faith." [2 Thessalonians 3:13](#), "But as for you, brethren, do not grow weary of doing good." [Proverbs 18:9](#), "He also who is slack in his work is brother to him who destroys." [Ephesians 5:15-16](#), "Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, making the most of your time, because the days are evil."

[2 Timothy 4:8](#), "In the future there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day; and not only to me, but also to all who have loved His appearing."

***NOTE:** Here is the original order of verbs, "*In hope, rejoicing; in tribulation, enduring; in prayer, persevering.*" It is best said like this, "*Each of these exercises helps the other. If our "hope" of glory is so assured that it is a rejoicing hope, we shall find the spirit of "endurance in tribulation" natural and easy; but since it is "prayer" which strengthens the faith that begets hope and lifts it up into an assured and joyful expectancy, and since our patience in tribulation is fed by this, it will be seen that all depends on our "perseverance in prayer."*"¹

[Isaiah 40:7-8](#), "The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God stands forever." [Lamentations 3:55](#), "I called on Your name, O Lord, out of the lowest pit." [Lamentations 3:57](#), "You drew near when I called on You; You said, Do not fear!"

****Hodges comments**, "*The entertainment of strangers. In times of persecution, and before the general institution of houses of entertainment, the importance of this precept would be at once felt. In the East, where such houses are still rare, this duty is regarded as of the most sacred character.*"² In other words, people would open their homes to strangers. [Hebrews 13:2](#), "Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by this some have entertained angels without knowing it." NOTE: In NT times travel was dangerous and expensive and believers in these times often opened their homes to travelers and especially of fellow believers. [1 Peter 4:9](#), "Be hospitable to one another without complaint."

[Colossians 3:1-3](#), "Therefore if you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth. For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God."

¹ Robert Jamieson, A. R. Fausset, and David Brown, [Commentary Critical and Explanatory on the Whole Bible](#), vol. 2 (Oak Harbor, WA: Logos Research Systems, Inc., 1997), 253.

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