

LOVE

to be continued...

“You can count on me!”
Hebrews 13:8-9

Love EDIFIES – from a solid foundation.

Jesus Christ is **NOT** the same CIRCUMSTANTIALY
Jesus Christ **IS** the same SUBSTANTIALY

Jesus Christ is THE SAME – He is the perfect & holy GOD, Creator & Sustainer of all life, ever seeking to be glorified in His creation, offering redemption to fallen man, and promising judgment to all who rebelliously oppose His will.

Practical Application: **We are to be “Christ-like.”**

1. THE WAY OF IMMATUREITY

The immature is “carried about” – he is unstable.

He is carried about with “divers and strange doctrines.”
Hebrews 5:12-14

What is a STRANGE doctrine?

Hebrews 13:2 “*strangers*” – those DIFFERENT from us.
Those UNKNOWN to us.

“Knowledge (alone) glorifies immaturity.”

KNOWLEDGE puffs up ...

- ... by feeding your MIND with information (Col 2:18) ...
- ... which feeds your FLESH ...
- ... which makes you JUDGMENTAL of others (inappropriately)
- ... which TEARS them DOWN.

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Things that PROFIT (always) are:

- Godliness, reading (1Tim 4:8-13)
- spiritual gifts, charity, speaking with understanding (1Cor 12-14)
- hard work (Prov 14:23)
- God's discipline / chastening (Heb 12:10)

2. THE WAY OF MATURITY

Rather than feeding your MIND with KNOWLEDGE ...

We need to establish our HEARTS with GRACE!

Colossians 2:7

“How do you know what kind of FRUIT a tree has?”
SHAKE the tree!

Examples:

Ephesians 3:17 & Ephesians 4:11-16 (Context = Growth)

Do you make choices as a matter of PRINCIPLE –
regardless of the circumstances?

Can you be “counted on”?

What do people think of when they think of YOU?

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