

AN ENCOUNTER WITH LOVE Part 4



Alistair Kingwill



WHAT IS LOVE?

- 1.) Longsuffering (patient)
- 2.) Kind
- 3.) Does not envy (is generous)
- 4.) Does not parade itself, is not puffed up (is humble)
- 5.) Does not behave rudely (is courteous)



WHAT IS LOVE?

- 6.) Does not seek its own (is unselfish)
- 7.) Is not provoked (is good tempered)
- 8.) Thinks no evil (is innocent)
- 9.) Does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth (is sincere)



9. LOVE DOES NOT REJOICE IN INIQUITY, BUT REJOICES IN THE TRUTH

⁶ It does not rejoice at injustice and unrighteousness, but rejoices when right and truth prevail.

1 Corinthians 13:6 (AMP)



LOVE'S WRATH AGAINST INIQUITY

¹⁸ For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness,

Romans 1:18 (NKJV)



WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO REJOICE IN INIQUITY?

1. Compromise on God's standards of holiness.
2. Tolerate (and even enjoy) sinful things.
3. Allow shame and guilt to bring bondage.
4. Become lukewarm in relationship with God.



LOVE'S DELIGHT IN THE TRUTH

¹¹ I have treasured Your word in my heart so that I may not sin against You.

Psalm 119:11 (HCSB)

¹³³ Direct my steps by Your word, And let no iniquity have dominion over me.

Psalm 119:133 (NKJV)

**WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO REJOICE IN THE TRUTH?**

1. Uphold God's standards of holiness (love His word).
2. Have a righteous anger against sin (obey His word).
3. Repent of shame and guilt (live in freedom of the Holy Spirit).
4. Keep the fire for God burning (fellowship of believers).

**DAVID'S REPENTANCE: 1.) HE KNEW GOD'S LOVE**

¹ Have mercy upon me, O God, According to Your lovingkindness; According to the multitude of Your tender mercies, Blot out my transgressions. ² Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, And cleanse me from my sin.

Psalm 51:1-13 (NKJV)

**DAVID'S REPENTANCE: 2.) HE KNEW HIS HEART**

³ For I acknowledge my transgressions, And my sin is always before me. ⁴ Against You, You only, have I sinned, And done this evil in Your sight— That You may be found just when You speak, And blameless when You judge. ⁵ Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, And in sin my mother conceived me.

Psalm 51:1-13 (NKJV)

**DAVID'S REPENTANCE: 3.) HE KNEW GOD'S STANDARD**

⁶ Behold, You desire truth in the inward parts, And in the hidden part You will make me to know wisdom.

Psalm 51:1-13 (NKJV)

**DAVID'S REPENTANCE: 4.) HE KNEW GOD'S GRACE**

⁷ Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. ⁸ Make me hear joy and gladness, That the bones You have broken may rejoice. ⁹ Hide Your face from my sins, And blot out all my iniquities.

Psalm 51:1-13 (NKJV)



DAVID'S REPENTANCE: 5.) HE KNEW GOD'S FORGIVENESS

¹⁰ Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a steadfast spirit within me. ¹¹ Do not cast me away from Your presence, And do not take Your Holy Spirit from me. ¹² Restore to me the joy of Your salvation, And uphold me by Your generous Spirit.

Psalm 51:1-13 (NKJV)



DAVID'S REPENTANCE: 6.) HE KNEW HIS CALLING

¹³ Then I will teach transgressors Your ways, And sinners shall be converted to You.

Psalm 51:1-13 (NKJV)



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Discussion Questions

Use the following questions this week to grow in your understanding and application of this message.

Read 1 Corinthians 13:6 (also refer to the Amplified Translation).

1. Love does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth. Describe a time in your life when you lost your joy. Why do you think this happened?
2. Read through the four points on the slide “What does it mean to rejoice in iniquity?” Be honest and share if you currently identify with any of them. Then read through the four points on the slide “What does it mean to rejoice in the truth?” Which of these areas can you grow in and how?
3. Read Psalm 51:1-13 and practice the six aspects of repentance like David did (do it with a trusted friend if you can). Be honest and specific about current sins or iniquities in your life. Ask God to bring you to place of rejoicing in Him.
4. Pray with someone this week and confess your need before the Lord to grow in the area of rejoicing in the truth and having a righteous anger towards sin in your own life. Keep one another accountable in the next few weeks.