

Title: Return the gift  
Pastor: Paul Kruger  
Date: 14 February 2010  
Time: 18:00



### Leviticus 19:18

<sup>18</sup> You shall not take vengeance, nor bear any grudge against the children of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I *am* the LORD.

### Deuteronomy 6:5

<sup>5</sup> You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.

### God's attitude towards His Son:

#### John 17:25-26

<sup>25</sup> O righteous Father! The world has not known You, but I have known You; and these have known that You sent Me. <sup>26</sup> And I have declared to them Your name, and will declare *it*, that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them.

### God's attitude towards the human race:

#### John 3:16

<sup>16</sup> "For God so **loved the world** that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

#### Romans 5:8

<sup>8</sup> But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were **still sinners**, Christ died for us.

### God's will for us:

#### John 13:34

<sup>34</sup> "A new commandment I give to you, that you **love one another**; as I have loved you, that you also love one another.

### God's will for all men:

#### I Thessalonians 3:12

<sup>12</sup> And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love to one another and to all, just as we *do* to you,

### God's nature:

#### I John 4:8

<sup>8</sup> He who does not love does not know God, for God is love.

### The love chapter – part one

#### I Corinthians 13:1-3

<sup>1</sup> Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal. <sup>2</sup> And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. <sup>3</sup> And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing.

## The love chapter – part two

### I Corinthians 13:4-8

<sup>4</sup> Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; <sup>5</sup> does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; <sup>6</sup> does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; <sup>7</sup> bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. <sup>8</sup> Love never fails. But whether there are prophecies, they will fail; whether there are tongues, they will cease; whether there is knowledge, it will vanish away.

### To attain to this love

### Isaiah 53:3-12

<sup>3</sup> He is despised and rejected by men, A Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. And we hid, as it were, our faces from Him; He was despised, and we did not esteem Him. <sup>4</sup> Surely He has borne our griefs And carried our sorrows; Yet we esteemed Him stricken, Smitten by God, and afflicted. <sup>5</sup> But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed. <sup>6</sup> All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way; And the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all. <sup>7</sup> He was oppressed and He was afflicted, Yet He opened not His mouth; He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, And as a sheep before its shearers is silent, So He opened not His mouth. <sup>8</sup> He was taken from prison and from judgment, And who will declare His generation? For He was cut off from the land of the living; For the transgressions of My people He was stricken. <sup>9</sup> And they made His grave with the wicked— But with the rich at His death, Because He had done no violence, Nor was any deceit in His mouth. <sup>10</sup> Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise Him; He has put Him to grief. When You make His soul an offering for sin, He shall see His seed, He shall prolong His days, And the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in His hand. <sup>11</sup> He shall see the labor of His soul, and be satisfied. By His knowledge My righteous Servant shall justify many, For He shall bear their iniquities. <sup>12</sup> Therefore I will divide Him a portion with the great, And He shall divide the spoil with the strong, Because He poured out His soul unto death, And He was numbered with the transgressors, And He bore the sin of many, And made intercession for the transgressors.

### Hebrews 12:2-3

<sup>2</sup> looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of *our* faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. <sup>3</sup> For consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls.