

Perilous Times of Compassion Fatigue V

Love is always seeking everyone's highest good all the time.

Mercy withholds judgment and punishment from others.

Compassion identifies with the pain of others and lifts them out of their pain.

Fatigue is a state or attitude of indifference or apathy brought on by overexposure (as to a repeated series of similar events or appeals).

Fatigue is weariness or exhaustion from labor, exertion, or stress.

KJV Matthew 24:10 And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another. ¹¹ And many false prophets shall rise and shall deceive many. ¹² **And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold.** ¹³ But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.

MSG Matthew 24:12 For many others, the overwhelming spread of evil will do them in—nothing left of their love but a mound of ashes.

NRVS Matthew 24:12 And because of the increase of lawlessness, **the love of many will grow cold.**

One of the marks of the perilous time is a loss of passion.

Perilous times are marked by a loss of a burning internal fire that energizes us to action.

I

We are encouraged to be fervent, aglow, and blazing with love towards one another.

KJV 1 Peter 4:7 But the end of all things is at hand: be ye therefore sober and watch unto prayer. ⁸ **And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves:** for charity shall cover the multitude of sins.

NLT 1 Peter 4:8 Most important of all, **continue to show deep love for each other,** for love covers a multitude of sins.

Amp 1 Peter 4:8 Above all, have **fervent and unfailing love** for one another, because love covers a multitude of sins [**it overlooks unkindness and unselfishly seeks the best for others**].

A Christian's unselfish love and concern for others should be exercised to the point of sacrificially giving for others' welfare.

II

It is possible to lose your first love.

NKJV Revelation 2:4 Nevertheless I have this against you, that you have left your first love.

NLT Revelation 2:4 But I have this complaint against you. You don't love me or each other as you did at first!

Love flows out of the heart.

KJV Romans 5:5 And hope maketh not ashamed; because **the love of God is shed abroad** in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.

One of the works of the Holy Ghost is to continually pour God's love into our hearts.

KJV 1 Timothy 1:5 Now the end of the commandment is **charity out of a pure heart**, and of a good conscience, and of faith unfeigned:

Holy Ghost love should and can flow best, out of a pure heart.

KJV Proverbs 4:23 **Keep** thy heart with all diligence; for **out of it are the issues of life**.

NLT Proverbs 4:23 **Guard your heart** above all else, for it determines the course of your life.

We are to guard our hearts against fatigue, weariness, and indifference.

III

We live in a world with compassion and lack of compassion.

KJV Luke 15:11-32 gives an account of two sons and one Father.

This is the third story of lostness.

There are lost sheep, lost coins, and lost sons.

KJV Luke 15:20 And he arose and came to his father. But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, **and had compassion**, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him.

The repentant son needs Father's love to come out to him.

The repentant son finds Father's love.

The repentant son experienced his Father's love.

KJV Luke 15:28 And he was **angry, and would not go in**: therefore, came his father out, and intreated him.

The older son needed Father's love to come to him.

The older son was compliant, not connected to his father's heart.

The older son suffered from compassion fatigue.

He was tired of serving his father in the household, without reward and recognition.

His love had grown cold!

- Cold love will leave you on the outside!
- Cold love produces a bad attitude towards everyone that you come in contact with!

- Cold love will repel and reject people, as opposed to attracting and believing in people!

*Rhema Christian Center
Bishop La Fayette Scales
Saturday & Sunday, August 26 & 27, 2023
9:30 a.m.*