

## Love in Action — 1 Corinthians 3:4-8a

English translation: Love...	Greek verb	transliteration	meaning as per Strong's concordance	Further detailed translation from Strong's	comments
...is patient	μακροθυμεῖ	makrothymeī	to persevere, to be patient	to persevere patiently and bravely; "to be patient in bearing the offences and injuries of others; to be mild and slow in avenging; to be long-suffering, slow to anger, slow to punish" (for אַף הַאָרִיר, to defer anger, Proverbs 19:11)	In our I want it all, now society, we see patience as a weak and passive. But Love ain't do this. It perseveres, knowing, in faith, that ultimately it will all make sense and be well, as it should be.
...is kind	χρηστεύεται	chrēsteuetai	to be kind	Middle voice from chrestos; to show oneself useful, i.e. act benevolently, be kind	It may be no "coincidence" that this sounds like "Christos". The Greek word Christos (5547) means the Anointed One, like the Hebrew מָשִׁיחַ (Mashiach), anointed, where the word "Messiah" derives from.
...is not envious	οὐ ζηλοῖ	ou zēloi	to be jealous	to envy, be jealous; in a good sense, to imitate emulously, strive after; to be heated or to boil with envy, hatred, anger	So despite the purported "good sense", Love does not imitate anything. It is itself, acts uniquely and creatively. The Hebrew root זָרַז reverberates. This means "to boil up, seethe, act proudly, presumptuously or rebelliously". Love stays calm, does not get angry or irritated – because it is sovereign, it is not surprised by evil or adversity and doesn't get incensed by it.
...does not boast/vaunt or ...is not pompous	οὐ περπερεύεται	ou perpereuetai	to boast	to act as a braggart, i.e. a "show-off" who needs too much attention (used only in 1 Cor 13:4)	no need. Love gives, it does not want anything back. Remember this is God's love, and God needs nothing.

...is not proud or inflated	<b>οὐ φυσιοῦται</b>	ou physioutai	to puff or blow up	from physa, “air-bellows”: inflate by blowing; (figuratively) swelled up, like an egotistic person spuing out arrogant (“puffed-up”) thoughts.	Love is the ultimate substance. It cannot, nor needs to, fill up by means of anything else.
...does not dishonour or ...is not rude	<b>οὐκ ἀσχημονεῖ</b>	ouk aschēmonei	to act unbecomingly	to lack proper form and hence thought of as unseemly (indecent, unbecoming)	Because of its character, this kind of Love is also graceful, apt, distinct and distinguished, a counterpart to shapeless chaos.
...is not self-seeking or ...does not seek its own interests	<b>οὐ ζητεῖ τὰ ἑαυτῆς</b>	ou zētei ta heautēs	to seek the <things of> him-/her-/itself	the <things of> seems to be added for interpretation, literally it only says Love does not seek itself	This Love is the ultimate outward focus.
...is not quick-tempered or ...is not easily angered	<b>οὐ παροξύνεται</b>	ou paroxynetai	to sharpen, fig. to stimulate, to provoke	cut close alongside, i.e. to incite (“jab”) someone and stimulate their feelings (emotions)	Although it is fully engaged and concerned, it is not manipulative. Maybe even paradoxically, it does not try to achieve anything.
...keeps no record of wrongs or ...does not brood over injury	<b>οὐ λογίζεται τὸ κακόν</b>	ou logizetai to kakon	to consider the evil	i.e. it does not take into account inner malice, the inwardly foul, rotten (poisoned)	Love believes the best, does not prejudge, considers not the possibility that it could want or need to withhold itself, because of the recipients' evil. It overcomes evil with good – Rom 12:21.
...does not rejoice over wrongdoing	<b>οὐ χαίρει ἐπὶ τῇ ἀδικίᾳ</b>	ou chairei epi tē adikia	rejoice at injustice	xar-, “favorably disposed, leaning towards” (cognate with <i>xáris</i> , “grace”) a deed violating law and justice	It is not corrupt, but pristine and pure.

...rejoices with the truth	<b>συναίρει δὲ τῇ ἀληθείᾳ</b>	synchairei de tē alētheia	to rejoice with the truth	sharing or partaking in God's grace over truth as in reality, the opposite of illusion	True Love. The real thing, unadulterated, undiluted, unfeigned
...bears all things	<b>πάντα στέγει</b>	panta stegei	to cover all	to shield, protect, to cover closely (so as to keep water out), generally to bear up under	It's not like Love suffers under all the injustice, nearly collapsing. Indeed it sovereignly keeps it at bay.
...believes all things	<b>πάντα πιστεύει</b>	panta pisteuei	to believe all	to entrust, affirm, have confidence	It cannot but believe in itself!
...hopes all things	<b>πάντα ἐλπίζει</b>	panta elpizei	to expect all	actively waiting for God's fulfillment about the faith He has in birthed through the power of His love	Not as in "we shall wait and see", no: We shall persevere patiently and see the salvation of God. We shall bring it about.
...endures all things	<b>πάντα ὑπομένει</b>	panta hypomenei	to stay behind, to await endure all	remaining under the load, bearing up (enduring)	It never gives up.
...never fails.	<b>οὐδέποτε πίπτει</b>	oudepote piptei	never falls (down)	to be cast down from a state of prosperity	Equivalent to Hebrew נפל "to fall". It doesn't grow weary or run out, never despairs, never loses its power, because its power is omnipotence.