February 22, 2009 *The Bridge Bible Fellowship* Pastor Paul S. Brown Hebrews 13:1-2

"Persevering Love, Part One"

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I.	Jesus Christ: Infinitely Better in His PERSON – Chapters 1-7
I.	Jesus Christ: Infinitely Better in His WORK – 8:1-10:18
III.	Christianity: An Infinitely Better WALK OF FAITH – 10:19-13:24 [A COMPLETED FAITH]
	A. The Confidence of Faith (10:19-39)
	B. The Examples of Faith (11)
	C. The Race of Faith (12)
	D. The Out-Workings of Faith (13) –
	1. Love in the Realm (13:1-6)
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Discussion Questions:

- 1. How does the faith of Hebrews 11 and the hope of Hebrews 12 impact the love of Hebrews 13?
- 2. What is the connection between the end of Hebrews 12 and the beginning of Hebrews 13? What instruction has led to this imperative? What doctrine has led to this duty? Where else do you see this in the book of Hebrews or other books of the New Testament?
- 3. What is it about Mt. Zion that compels us to love? What do we learn about love from what Jesus did for us there? What do we learn about love from what Jesus continues to do for us? How does knowing that we receive a kingdom that cannot be shaken encourage us to persevere in loving the saints (Heb. 12:28)?
- 4. Read Hebrews 10:32-39. At one point in the past the people loved one another no matter what. Why did the writer of Hebrews have to tell them to <u>continue</u> loving one another? What were they tempted to do? What were they facing that would tempt them to stop loving one another? What normal challenges happen in relationships that make us want to stop loving one another? What should we do about these things?
- 5. What are some practical ways that we can love one another in the body of Christ?
- 6. What does the word "hospitality" mean? What does it have to do with "strangers"? What examples of this kind of love can you find in the Bible? Why would hospitality flow out of genuine salvation? What does it have to do with Mt. Zion and what Jesus did for us?
- 7. What does the Bible say about angels? Are there any examples of people entertaining angels in the Bible without knowing it? If angels came to visit you what would they learn from you about God's love and grace?
- 8. What does the word "sympathy" mean? What does it mean to be sympathetic toward those who are hurting? What should genuine sympathy produce inside of you? What should that lead to according to Hebrews 13:3?
- 9. Why do you think the people referred to in Heb. 13:3 were in prison? Why would believers be tempted not to associate with those who were in prison for those reasons? How would the doctrinal truths of Hebrews 12 help you overcome those fears and choose to associate with the prisoners? If you were in prison what would you want others to do for you?
- 10. What might it mean to be "ill-treated"? Why wouldn't they naturally care for these people? Why did they need to be reminded? What does it mean that we are "in the body"? How does that motivate me to care for people who are ill-treated?

[Outline blanks: Faith; Hope; Love; Social; Saints; Strangers; Sympathy]