

- (James 5:8–9:11 ESV) You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. 9 Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door.

THE ABUNDANCE OF THIS LOVE ...

This love is the abounding, overflowing love of God poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit.

1. The beginning point ...

- (Romans 5:1–5 ESV) Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. 2 Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. 3 Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, 4 and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, 5 and hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

2. The process of God’s abundant love.

The process of this love comes through rejoicing in our sufferings because we anticipate the love that God will pour into our hearts through the Holy Spirit.

3. The correlation with the abundant life Christ came to give ...

- (John 10:10–12 ESV) The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly. 11 I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. 12 He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them.

4. The focus on love for Christ in the stewardship of the shepherd.

In this text Jesus calls Simon Peter from the brokenness of his failed effort to serve to commission him to shepherd the flock of God. He brings Peter’s love for him—Jesus—to the forefront.

- (John 21:15–17 ESV) When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” He said to him, “Feed my lambs.” 16 He said to him a second time, “Simon, son of John, do you love me?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” He said to him, “Tend my sheep.” 17 He said to him the third time, “Simon, son of John, do you love me?” Peter was grieved because he said to him the third time, “Do you love me?” and he said to him, “Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my sheep.

But the fruit of the Spirit is ...

love¹,
joy,
peace,
patience,
kindness,
goodness,
faithfulness,
gentleness,
self-control².



FOOTNOTES

¹The greatest (1 Corinthians 13:13).

²Against such things no law (Galatians 5:23).