Friendship forbears, and is kind; friendship envies not; is not vain-glorious, is not pompous; never misbehaving, nor self-seeking, nor provoking, nor brooding over injury, nor delighting over wickedness; but rejoices with the right. It endures everything; trusts everything; hopes for all, waits for all. Friendship will never fail: but as for eloquence it will cease; as for languages, they will be silent; as for science, it will become useless. For we know imperfectly, and we teach with imperfection; but when the perfect arrives, the imperfect will become useless.

When I was a child I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reflected like a child; but when I became a man, the ideas of the child were useless. For we look now through a loop-hole into the darkness; but then face to face: now I know partially; but then I shall know perfectly, even as I am perfectly known. And now exist faith, hope, and friendship, these three; but the greatest of them is friendship.