

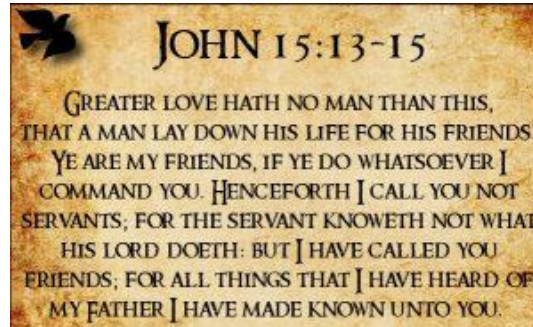
Back to the Father

Your Journey

Journey of Studies

Study on Love

A Closer Look at Phileo - Part 9



Phileo comes from a word that has the meaning to be a friend. It means to be fond of an individuals or objects. Phileo denotes a personal attachment, as a matter of sentiment or feeling being chiefly of the heart.

Phileo speaks of the love that the Father has for the Son.

John 5:20 For the Father has *affection* (*philei*) for the Son, and shows him all things that he himself does. WEB

The love that he has for the Saints.

John 16:27 for the Father himself *loves* (*philei*) you, because you have *loved* (*pephilekate*) me, WEB

And even the love that the world has for its own.

John 15:19 If you were of the world, the world would *love* (*ephilei*) its own. WEB

Paul makes the statement that if we do not phileo the Lord let him be accursed. Even though we are not commanded to phileo it should be a natural response because of what the Lord has done for us and if not, there is something deeply wrong with our relationship with him.

1 Cor 16:22 If any man doesn't *love* (*philei*) the Lord Jesus Christ, let him be accursed
WEB

- Some manuscripts omit Jesus Christ

Phileo also has the meaning of being a friend, someone that you are fond of or is dear to you.

Jesus referred to Lazarus as his friend and the disciples.

John 11:11 "Our *friend* (*philos*) Lazarus has fallen asleep;" WEB

John 15:13-15 Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his *friends* (*philon*). 14 You are my *friends* (*philo*), if you do whatever I command you. 15 No longer do I call you servants, for the servant doesn't know what his lord does. But I have called you *friends* (*philous*), for everything that I heard from my Father, I have made known to you. WEB

James 2:23 "Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him as righteousness;" and he was called the *friend* (*philos*) of God. WEB

James 4:4 You adulterers and adulteresses, don't you know that *friendship* (*philia*) with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a *friend* (*philos*) of the world makes himself an enemy of God. WEB

Philema a kiss: Another form of phileo is philema which means to kiss, an expression of tender affection.

Paul tells the church to greet each other with a holy kiss. A pure expression of your tender affection for the body of Christ.

Rom 16:16 Greet one another with a holy kiss (*philemati*). WEB

1 Cor 16:20 All the brothers greet you. Greet one another with a holy kiss (*philemati*). WEB

1 Peter 5:14 Greet one another with a *kiss (philemati)* of love (*agapes*).

WEB

- A kiss that is based on a social and moral love.

Kataphileo to kiss earnestly: The compound verb has the force of an emphatic, kissing "tenderly, caressing.

Luke 7:44-47 Turning to the woman, he said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I entered into your house, and you gave me no water for my feet, but she has wet my feet with her tears, and wiped them with the hair of her head. 45 You gave me no kiss, (*philema*) but she, since the time I came in, has not ceased to kiss (*kataphilousa*) my feet. 46 You didn't anoint my head with oil, but she has anointed my feet with ointment. 47 Therefore I tell you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven, for she loved (*egapesen*) much. But to whom little is forgiven, the same loves (*agapa*) little." WEB

- Her expression of tender affection comes out of the moral love she has for Jesus. The love of the heart and mind are joined together to reveal the deep thankfulness that is alive in her being.

Luke 15:20 "He (*the prodigal son*) arose, and came to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him, and was moved with compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and *kissed* (*katephilesen*) him. WEB

- **Kissed** *katefileesen*. Note perfective use of *kata*, "kissed him much, kissed him again and again." The verb occurs so in the older Greek. Robertson's Word Pictures in the New Testament

Acts 20:36-38 When he had spoken these things, he knelt down and prayed with them all. 37 They all wept a lot, and fell on Paul's neck and *kissed* (*katephiloun*) him, 38 sorrowing most of all because of the word which he had spoken, that they should see his face no more. WEB

- **Kissed him** *katephiloun auton*. Imperfect active of *kataphileo*, old verb, intensive with *kata* and repetition shown also by the tense: They kept on kissing or kissed repeatedly, probably one after the other falling on his neck. Compare also *Matt 26:49*. Robertson's Word Pictures in the New Testament

That which was a sign of tender affection Judas used as a sign to betray Jesus.

Matt 26:47-49 While he was still speaking, behold, Judas, one of the twelve, came, and with him a great multitude with swords and clubs, from the chief priest and elders of the people. 48 Now he who betrayed him gave them a sign, saying, "Whoever I *kiss* (*phileso*), he is the one. Seize him." 49 Immediately he came to Jesus, and said, "Hail, Rabbi!" and *kissed* (*katephilesen*) him. WEB

- **Kissed him.** The compound verb has the force of an emphatic, ostentatious salute. Meyer says, "embraced and kissed." The same word is used of the tender caressing of the Lord's feet by the woman in the Pharisee's house (*Luke 7:38*), of the father's embrace of the returned prodigal (*Luke 15:20*), and of the farewell of the Ephesian elders to Paul (*Acts 20:37*). Vincent's Word Studies in the New Testament

Phileo is used in conjunction with a number of other words to form compound words. Knowing and understanding how these words are used in scripture will help a person to obtain a clearer picture of what is trying to be conveyed.

Philadelphia fraternal affection: from the word phileo (love) and Adelpia (brother).

1 Peter 1:22 Seeing you have purified your souls in your obedience to the truth through the Spirit in sincere **brotherly affection** (*Philadelphian*),

Philadelphos fond of brethren, i.e., fraternal:

1 Peter 3:8 Finally, be all like-minded, compassionate, **loving as brothers**, (*philádelphoi*) tenderhearted, courteous, WEB

Philandros fond of man, i.e., affectionate as a wife and **philoteknos** fond of one's children, i.e., maternal:

Titus 2:4 that they may train the young women to **love their husbands**, (*philandrous*) to **love their children** (*philotéknous*), WEB

Philanthropia fondness of mankind

Acts 28:2 The natives showed us uncommon **kindness**; (philanthropian) for they kindled a fire, and received us all, because of the present rain, and because of the cold. WEB

1 Cor 11:16 But if any man seems to be *contentious* (*philóneikos*), we have no such custom, neither do God's assemblies. WEB

Philonexia hospitableness:

Rom 12:13 contributing to the needs of the saints; given to *hospitality* (*philoxenían*). WEB

Philosophia love of wisdom Here it means what is merely human wisdom, as contrasted with the divine wisdom in the Christian message.

Col 2:8 Be careful that you don't let anyone rob you through his *philosophy* (*philosophías*) and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the elements of the world, and not after Christ. WEB

Philostorgos cherishing one's kindred, especially parents or children); fond of natural relatives, i.e., fraternal towards fellow Christian: Love one another warmly

Rom 12:10 In love of the brothers be *tenderly affectionate* (*philostorgoi*) one to another; in honor preferring one another; WEB

Philotimeomai fond of honor, i.e., emulous (eager or earnest to do something):

2 Cor 5:9 Therefore also we make it our *aim* (*philotimoumetha*), whether at home or absent, to be well pleasing to him. WEB

Philophronos friendliness of mind, i.e., kindly:

Acts 28:7 Now in the neighborhood of that place were lands belonging to the chief man of the island, named Publius, who received us, and *courteously* (*philophronos*) entertained us for three days. WEB

There is much more that could be said about this subject but for now we will call it good. I will leave you with this, a list of scriptures that use phileo in one form or another. May your love grow in God and towards and each other.

SCRIPTURES WITH PHILEO

With Strong's numbers

(5368) Matt 6:5, Matt 10:37 (2x), Matt 23:6, Matt 26:48, Mark 14:44, Luke 20:46, Luke 22:47, John 5:20, John 11:3, John 11:36, John 12:25, John 15:19, John 16:27 (2x), John 20:2, John 21:15, John 21:16, John 21:17 (3x), 1 Cor 16:22, Titus 3:15, Rev 3:19, Rev 22:15
(2705) Matt 26:49, Mark 14:45, Luke 7:38, Luke 7:45, Luke 15:20, Acts 20:37
(5360) Rom 12:10, 1 Thess 4:9, Heb 13:1, 1 Peter 1:22, 2 Peter 1:7 (2x)
(5361) 1 Peter 3:8 **(5362)** Titus 2:4 **(5363)** Acts 28:2, Titus 3:4 **(5364)** Acts 27:3
(5365) 1 Tim 6:10 **(5366)** Luke 16:14, 2 Tim 3:2 **(5367)** 2 Tim 3:2 **(5369)** 2 Tim 3:4
(5370) Luke 7:45, Luke 22:48, Rom 16:16, 1 Cor 16:20, 2 Cor 13:12, 1 Thess 5:26, 1 Peter 5:14
(5373) James 4:4 **(5377)** 2 Tim 3:4 **(5380)**, 1 Cor 11:16 **(5381)** Rom 12:13, Heb 13:2
(5382) 1 Tim 3:2, Titus 1:8, 1 Peter 4:9 **(5383)** 3 John 9 **(5384)** Matt 11:19, Luke 7:6, Luke 7:34, Luke 11:5 (2x), Luke 11:6, Luke 11:8, Luke 12:4, Luke 14:10, Luke 14:12, Luke 15:6, Luke 15:9, Luke 15:29, Luke 16:9, Luke 21:16, Luke 23:12, John 3:29, John 11:11, John 15:13, John 15:14, John 15:15, John 19:12, Acts 10:24, Acts 19:31, Acts 27:3, James 2:23, James 4:4, 3 John 15 (2x) **(5385)** Col 2:8 **(5387)** Rom 12:10 **(5388)** Titus 2:4
(5389) Rom 15:20, 2 Cor 5:9, 1 Thess 4:11 **(5390)** Acts 28:7