

Back to the Father

Your Journey

Journey of Studies

Study on Love

Christ, Our Example - Part 3



Jesus proved that he loved the Father by the love that he had for his children. If we truly want to be the children of God let us learn by his example and love in all ways like him.
(1 John 4:20)

John 11:33-37 When Jesus therefore saw her weeping, and the Jews weeping who came with her, he groaned in the spirit, and was troubled, 34 and said, "Where have you laid him?" They told him, "Lord, come and see." 35 Jesus wept. 36 The Jews therefore said, "See how much *affection* (or love, *philei*) he had for him!" 37 Some of them said, "Couldn't this man, who opened the eyes of him who was blind, have also kept this man from dying?" WEB

- Both "phileo" and "agapao" are used for the love that Jesus had for Lazarus.

John 11:3 So the sisters sent to him, saying, "Lord, he whom you love (*phileis*) is ill."
ESV

John 11:5 Now Jesus loved (*egapa*) Martha and her sister and Lazarus. ESV

- 1 John 5:1, 2

John 13:1 Now before the feast of the Passover, Jesus, knowing that his time had come that he would depart from this world to the Father, having **loved** (*egapesen*) his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. WEB

- The act of Jesus willingly giving his life was proof of the love that he had for his own.

John 15:9 Even as the Father has loved (*egapesen*) me, I also have loved (*egapesa*) you. Remain in my **love** (*agape*). WEB

- v. 9 Literally, "in the love, that which is mine"
- The love that the Father has for the Son is seen in the love that the Son has for us.

John 19:25-27 But there were standing by the cross of Jesus his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. 26 Therefore when Jesus saw his mother, and the disciple whom he **loved** (*egapa*) standing there, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold your son!" 27 Then he said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother!" From that hour, the disciple took her to his own home. WEB

- Even as Jesus was dying on the cross his love was seen in that he was more concerned about the well-being of others than for his own.

Gal 2:19-20 For I, through the law, died to the law, that I might live to God. 20 I have been crucified with Christ, and it is no longer I that live, but Christ living in me. That life which I now live in the flesh, I live by faith in the Son of God, who **loved** (*agapesantos*) me, and gave himself up for me. WEB

- Jesus did not only die for us, but he also lived his entire life for us.

Eph 5:1-2 Be therefore imitators of God, as **beloved** (*agapeta*) children. 2 Walk in love, (*agape*) even as Christ also loved (*egapesen*) you, and gave himself up for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling fragrance. WEB

- Christ's life was a walk of love and we are to walk as he walked. (*John 13:34*)

Rev 1:4-6 John, to the seven assemblies that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace, from God, who is and who was and who is to come; and from the seven Spirits who are before his throne; 5 and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler

of the kings of the earth. To him who **loves** (*agaponti*) us and washed us from our sins by his blood; 6 and he made us to be a Kingdom, priests to his God and Father; to him be the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen. WEB

- Him who loves us: the use of the Greek present participle "the one loving us" emphasizes the continual, never-ending love of Jesus Christ for all his people.
- agapao occurs again at Rev 3:9 (and see the noun agapee at 2:4); another Greek verb, phileo, is used at 3:19. UBS Handbook Series

Rev 3:19-22 As many as I **love**, (*philo*) I reprove and chasten. Be zealous therefore, and repent. 20 Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, then I will come in to him, and will dine with him, and he with me. 21 He who overcomes, I will give to him to sit down with me on my throne, as I also overcame, and sat down with my Father on his throne. 22 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the assemblies." WEB

- V 19 I love: the personal pronoun I is emphatic in the Greek text. The Greek verb phileo carries a warm emotional content. With the meaning "to love" it is not, nor can it be, used in the imperative mode. UBS Handbook Series

The love that Jesus has for us is not only a social and moral love, but it is also a love that stirs the emotions of the heart and is guided by the love of God. This is the love that we need to perfect in our lives and walk in.