

Back to the Father

Your Journey

Journey of Studies

Study on Love

The Love of Things - Part 8



Even as *agape* and *phileo* are used to describe the love expressed by and for God, the saints and the unsaved it is also used to describe the love for thing both good and bad.

John 3:19 This is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and men **loved** (*egapesan*) the darkness rather than the light; for their works were evil. WEB

- What we choose to love reveals what kind of person we are.

Luke 20:46-47 "Beware of the scribes, who like to walk in long robes, and *love* (*philounton*) greetings in the marketplaces, the best seats in the synagogues, and the best places at feasts; 47 who devour widows' houses, and for a pretense make long prayers: these will receive greater condemnation." WEB Matt 6:5-6; 23:6-8

- Self-serving love is like a sponge that soaks in but never gives out.

John 12:42-43 Nevertheless even of the rulers many believed in him, but because of the Pharisees they didn't confess it, so that they wouldn't be put out of the synagogue, 43 for they loved (egapesan) men's praise more than God's praise. WEB

- It is a sad thing when our church leaders and our place of worship become more important than the one that deserves our worship.

Matt 6:24 "No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love (agapesei) the other; or else he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You can't serve both God and Mammon. WEB Luke 16:13

- Mammon refers to material wealth of all kinds. God is not against wealth but when it becomes a god that you love and serve it then comes into direct opposition with the one and only true God.

Rev 12:11 They overcame him because of the Lamb's blood, and because of the word of their testimony. They didn't love (egapesan) their life, even to death. WEB John 12:25 (*philon*)

- It is not only the things that we love but it is also the things that we do not love that prove our love to God.

3 John 9-10 I wrote to the assembly, but Diotrephes, who *loves to be first (phipoproteuon)* among them, doesn't accept what we say. 10 Therefore, if I come, I will call attention to his deeds which he does, unjustly accusing us with wicked words. Not content with this, neither does he himself receive the brothers, and those who would, he forbids and throws out of the assembly. WEB Mark 10:42-45; Luke 14:10-11

- Walking all over others to be first is not a love that comes from the heart of God.

Rev 22:14-15 Blessed are those who do his commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter in by the gates into the city. 15 Outside are the dogs, the sorcerers, the sexually immoral, the murderers, the idolaters, and everyone who loves (philon) and practices falsehood. WEB

- Loving the wrong things will cause us to be separated from the God of love.

2 Thess 2:8-10 Then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will kill with the breath of his mouth, and destroy by the manifestation of his coming;

9 even he who's coming is according to the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, 10 and with all deception of wickedness for those who are being lost, because they didn't receive the love (agapen) of the truth, that they might be saved. WEB

- We live in a world filled with people that do not love truth and could care less about seeking it out. True worshipers of God will seek to worship him both in spirit and truth. John 4:24

2 Tim 3:2-5 For men will be *lovers of self*, (*philautoi*) *lovers of money*, (*philarguroi*) boastful, arrogant, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, 3 without natural affection, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, fierce, no lovers of good, (aphilagathoi) 4 traitors, headstrong, conceited, lovers of pleasure (philedono) rather than lovers of God; (philotheoi) 5 holding a form of godliness, but having denied the power thereof. Turn away from these, also. WEB

- The kind of charter you have is seen in the type of love you express.

2 Tim 4:9-10 Be diligent to come to me soon, 10 for Demas left me, having loved (agapesas) this present world, and went to Thessalonica; Crescens to Galatia, and Titus to Dalmatia. WEB

- If we love the world system, we are enemies of God. James 4:4

2 Peter 2:13-16 receiving the wages of unrighteousness; people who count it pleasure to revel in the daytime, spots and blemishes, reveling in their deceit while they feast with you; 14 having eyes full of adultery, and who can't cease from sin; enticing unsettled souls; having a heart trained in greed; children of cursing; 15 forsaking the right way, they went astray, having followed the way of Balaam the son of Beor, who loved (egapesen) the wages of wrong-doing; 16 but he was rebuked for his own disobedience. A mute donkey spoke with man's voice and stopped the madness of the prophet. WEB

- Loving the wrong things will only lead to misery and death.

1 John 2:15 Don't *love (agapate)* the world, neither the things that are in the world. If anyone *loves (agapa)* the world, the Father's *love (agape)* isn't in him. WEB

- There is a love that is born out of the world and there is a love that is born out of God. The love we show will reveal whether we are of the world or of God.

2 Tim 4:7-8 I have fought the good fight. I have finished the course. I have kept the faith. 8 From now on, there is stored up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give to me on that day; and not to me only, but also to all those who have loved (*egapekosi*) his appearing. WEB

- The kind of relationship we have with the Lord will determine whether or not we are looking forward to his appearing.

Titus 1:7-9 For the overseer must be blameless, as God's steward; not self-pleasing, not easily angered, not given to wine, not violent, not greedy for dishonest gain; 8 but given to hospitality, as a *lover of good*, (*philagathon*) sober minded, fair, holy, self-controlled; 9 holding to the faithful word which is according to the teaching, that he may be able to exhort in the sound doctrine, and to convict those who contradict him. WEB

We live in a world filled with things that are competing for our love. The things we give our love to will either cause our love to be defiled or purified. If we love God and align ourselves with his moral codes our love will mature and be perfected. Love that has been made perfect will cast out all fear (*1 John 4:18*).