

“Do You Love Me?”

John 21:15-17

NOT *Agape* vs. *Phileo*

- 1) John does not emphasize the differences between three other sets of synonyms in the same paragraph.
 - a) Lambs, sheep; b) know, know; c) feed, shepherd.
- 2) John uses *agape* and *phileo* as synonyms.
 - 20:2 - the other disciple whom Jesus loved (*phileo*).
 - 21:7 - that disciple whom Jesus loved (*agape*).
- 3) The stress in the context is three times.

Every true Christian loves Jesus Christ!

- John 8:42 - Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love Me.
- John 16:27 - the Father Himself loves you, because you have loved Me and have believed that I came forth from the Father.
- 1 Cor. 16:22 - If anyone does not love the Lord, he is to be accursed.
- Eph. 6:24 - Grace be with all those who love our Lord Jesus Christ with incorruptible *love*.
- 1 Pet. 1:8 - though you have not seen Him, you love Him.

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- 1) Is He more valuable to you than everything else in the world?
- 2) Is your affection for Him greater than for any other person, including yourself?
- 3) Do you love His people?
- 4) Do you obey His commands?