

Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

PREPARING FOR ETERNITY

RLJ-1555

JOHN S. TORELL

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PART 15: LOVE 201

LOVE

What is love? In the English language we only have one word for “love.” This word is used to express love for God, love for a person, how we feel about ice cream and the clothes you wear. The New Testament was written in Greek and there are several words used to describe love.

THELO

There are three different versions of the Greek language:

1. Classic spoken during the height of the Greek empire.
2. Koine spoken during the time of Jesus.
3. Modern spoken today.

Koine Greek had the verb “thelo” with the meaning, “I love to be greeted and recognized by people.” There was only one place in the New Testament where “thelo” was used.

Mark 12:38

PHILEO

“Phileo” is used to describe the love you have toward a friend. **John 11:3**

Love of brethren is “Philadelphia.” **Romans 12:10**

Love of money is “philarguriz.” **1 Timothy 6:10**

Love of spouse or children is “philoteknos.” **Titus 2:4**

Love of husband is “philandros.” **Titus 2:4**

Love toward man is “philantrophia.” **Titus 3:4**

EROS

“Eros” is used to describe sexual love. It is translated into English as “erotic” and is used to describe sexual stimulation. Sexual intercourse is discussed in the Old Testament but “eros” doesn’t appear in the New Testament.

LIVING IN GOD’S LOVE

Every Christian must learn to love God above everything else:

1. Make sure that God is the primary love in your life. Do not take part in idolatry or worshiping something other than the Creator. **Exodus 20:1-6; Matthew 22:34-38**
2. Learn to love other people unconditionally. This includes those within the body of Christ and your enemies. **Matthew 22:39-40; 5:43-48; John 13:1-15**



3. Unconditional love will inspire you to witness and lead sinners to Christ. **Matthew 28:18-20**
4. Unconditional love will inspire you to pray for the sick and cast out demons. **Luke 9:1; 10:1-3, 9, 17**
5. Unconditional love will inspire you to love and obey Jesus Christ. **John 14:15**
6. Lying is like an acid that will destroy the love of God. **John 8:44**

TESTING YOUR LOVE

Jesus tried to bring the apostle Peter to the level of unconditional love. His first question used the word “agapao” when He asked, “Do you love me?” Peter’s response used the word “phileo” when he stated that he loved Jesus. **John 21:15**

Jesus asked Peter a second time if he loved Him unconditionally and once again Peter told Jesus that he loved Him as a brother. **verse 16**

Jesus asked Peter the same question for the third time but used the word “phileo” instead of “agapao.” Peter was clueless and could not move from brotherly love to divine love. **verse 17**

Test yourself on a daily basis to see how you are doing. **Galatians 5:22-25**

The final exam is found in **1 Corinthians chapter 13**. If you can earnestly state that you are able to live out those words, you are ready to be tested by God! **Genesis 22:1-18**

Do you need to repent and correct your actions? **1 John 1:5-10**

Do you plan to start and finish your classes?