

LEARNING  
TO TRULY  
WALK IN  
TRUTH BY  
LOVING  
WITH  
TRUTHFUL  
LOVE

*2 John*

T R U T H

# LEARN & ACCEPT THE TRUTH

GOD WANTS US TO “**COME TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE TRUTH**” (1 TIM. 2:5)!

ONLY THE TRUTH CAN **FREE YOU** (JN. 8:32)!

THE KNOWLEDGE OF **THE TRUTH THAT ACCORDS WITH GODLINESS, IN HOPE OF ETERNAL LIFE** (TIT. 1:1B,2A).

**T R U T H**

# **KEEP & SPEAK THE TRUTH**

**ABIDE IN THE TEACHING** OF CHRIST  
(2 JN. 9; GAL. 1:6-9)!

**SPEAK THE TRUTH** IN LOVE (EPH. 4:15)!

**PREACH THE WORD/GOSPEL**  
(2 TIM. 4:2; MARK 16:15)!

# “WHAT IS TRUTH?” (JN. 18:38)

ἀλήθεια (*alētheia*)

“what is true in any matter... (**opp. to what is feigned, fictitious, false**)” (Thayer, p. 26).

“...**the 'true' teaching of the Gospel in contrast to perversions of it**” (Vine, p. 391).

“**the truth as taught in the Christian religion**, respecting God and...His purposes..., **and respecting the duties of man**, opposed alike to the superstitions of the Gentiles and the inventions of the Jews, and to the corrupt opinions and precepts of false teachers, *even among Christians*” (Thayer, p. 26).

# WALK IN TRUTH

"**walk**"—περιπατέω (*peripateō*)

"...**in newness of life**" (ROM. 6:4)

"...**after the Spirit**" (ROM. 8:4)

"...**as children of light**" (EPH. 5:8)

"...**by faith, not by sight**" (2 COR. 5:7)

*Fig.* "**to live**, deport oneself, **follow**" (Strong, p. 1659)

"*figuratively*, signifying **the whole round of the activities of individual life**" (Vine, p. 406).

# WALK IN "LOVE"

1 JOHN 3:11—"...**love** one another."

ROM. 12:9,10—"...let **love** be without hypocrisy..."

MATT. 5:44—"...**love** your enemies..."

MATT. 19:19—"...**love** your neighbor as yourself."

MARK 5:30—"...**love** the Lord your God with all..."

1 JOHN 4:8—"...God is **love**."

1 COR. 13:1-3—**Everything - Love = Nothing**

1 COR. 13:13—"...faith, hope, **love**: ...*greatest*...is **love**."

# WHAT IS "LOVE"?

φίλος/φιλέω (*philos/phileō*)

"...act or token of **affection**; to love, regard with **affection**, have **affection** for; to **like**, be **fond of**" (Mounce, p. 1031).

**"tender affection"** (Vine, p. 226)

φιλέω is **never used in a command to man to 'love God'**" (Vine, p. 226).

# WHAT IS "LOVE"?

ἀγάπη/ἀγαπάω (*agapē/agapaō*)

"to value, esteem, **be faithful towards**" (Mounce, p. 48).

**"have preference for**, wish well to, **regard the welfare of**" (Thayer, p. 3).

*"When used of love to...God or Christ, [it] involves the idea of affectionate reverence, **prompt obedience**, grateful recognition of benefits received..."* (Thayer, pp. 3-4).



# WHAT IS "LOVE"?

**"Love can be known only from the actions it prompts...** Christian love [ἀγάπη] has God for its primary object, and expresses itself first of all in **implicit obedience to his commandments**" (Vine, pp. 225-6).

"ἀγαπάω properly denotes a love founded in **admiration, veneration, esteem...**, but φιλέω [is] prompted by *sense* and *emotion*... Hence men are said [to] ἀγαπᾶν God, not φιλεῖν... **Christ bids us ἀγαπάω (not φιλεῖν), because love as an emotion cannot be commanded, but only love as a choice**" (Thayer, p. 653).

# WHAT IS "LOVE"?

## JOHN 21:15-17

"Σίμων Ἰωνᾶ, **ἀγαπᾷς** με πλέον τούτων;" (15a).

"ναί, Κύριε, σὺ οἶδας ὅτι **φιλῶ** σε" (15b).

"Σίμων Ἰωνᾶ, **ἀγαπᾷς** με;" (16a).

"ναί, Κύριε, σὺ οἶδας ὅτι **φιλῶ** σε" (16b).

"Σίμων Ἰωνᾶ, **φιλεῖς** με;" (17a).

# WHAT IS "LOVE"?

φιλέω denotes to "have affection for (denoting personal attachment), as a matter of *sentiment* or *feeling*; while [ἀγαπάω] is wider, embracing especially the **judgment** and the **deliberate assent of the will** as a matter of **principle, duty, and propriety... **the former being chiefly of the HEART, and the latter of the HEAD****"

(Strong, p. 1681, emp. added).

# WHAT IS "LOVE"?

## 2 JOHN 6

"And this is love [ἀγάπη], **that we walk according to his commandments...**"

## 1 JOHN 5:3

"And this is the love [ἀγάπη] of God, **that we keep his commandments**. And his commandments are not burdensome."