

WHAT LOVE DOES IN JOHN'S GOSPEL

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In column 3 the words for **love** are forms of *agape* or *agapao* unless marked *v* (for *phileo* or *philos*). In column 4 the “object” of love is the person or thing that is loved.

	REFERENCE	PARAPHRASE	WHAT LOVE DOES OR FEELS FOR ITS OBJECT
1	3:16-17	God so loved us (the world) that He gave His Son to give us life, not to condemn us.	Gives it good.
2	3:18-21	Our condemnation is that we love darkness and hate light. (Cf. 6:32-35.) In John 17 the Son wants to be with the Father and for believers to be with Him.	Tries to be near it (or, gives it high priority)
3	3:35	The Father loves the Son and gives everything to Him. (13:3; 16:15; 17:2,10)	Gives it good
4	5:20	The Father loves <i>v</i> the Son and shows Him all He does. (Cf. 14:31.) 5:19,30 The Son doesn't act (or speak) independently of the Father (also 6:38; 8:26,28; 9:4; 10:30,37-38; 12:49-50; 14:10,24; 17:14; 18:11).	Gives it good
5	5:42	You don't have the love of God in you—receive glory from men.	Is devoted to it (or, seeks God's approval; cf. 9)
6	8:42	If God were your Father, you would love me.	Honors those it honors (or, honors those like the beloved)
7	10:17	The Father loves me because I give my life.	Is proud of it
8	11:3,36,5	The one you love is sick. Jesus loved <i>v</i> Mary, Martha, Lazarus.	?Is emotionally attached to it (or, enjoys its company)
9	12:25	He who loves <i>v</i> his life will lose it; he who hates his life will keep it.	Gives it high priority (chooses it) (or, is devoted to it)
10	12:42-43	Some rulers, though they believed, wouldn't confess Christ because they loved the glory of men more than the glory of God.	Gives it high priority (chooses it) (or, seeks its approval)
11	13:1	Having loved His own, Jesus loved them to the end. (He washed their feet, as an example, vv. 14-15.)	Is devoted to (serves) it (or, gives it good; or, seeks the best for it)
12	13:23	the disciple Jesus loved (also in 19:26; 21:7,20; <i>v</i> in 20:2)	?Is emotionally attached to it (or, enjoys its company)
13	13:34-35	new commandment, to love one another as I have loved you—proof to others of discipleship	Seeks the best for it (compare 5 and 9)

	REFERENCE	PARAPHRASE	WHAT LOVE DOES OR FEELS FOR ITS OBJECT
14	14:15	If you love me, keep my commandments.	Gives it high priority (chooses it) (here proved by obedience)
15	14:21	He who keeps my commandments is who loves me, will be loved by the Father and loved by the Son.	Gives it high priority (chooses it) (here proved by obedience)
16	14:23-24 (repeats thoughts of 14:21, adds)	He who loves me will keep my words—and my Father will love him—and we will come and dwell with him. He who does not love me does not keep my words.	Tries to be near it
17	14:28	If you had loved me, you would have rejoiced at my going to the Father.	Seeks the best for it
18	14:31	So that the world will know that I love the Father, so I do.	Is devoted to (serves) it
19	15:9-10	As the Father has loved me, I have loved you. Remain in my love by obeying my commandments, as I have kept my Father's commandments and remain in His love . ((Remain in=experience?))	Is devoted to (serves) it
20	15:12,17 (like 13:34-35)	My commandment: love one another as I have loved you.	Seeks the best for it
21	15:13-16	There is no greater love than to give one's life for his friends v. You are my friends v if you obey—not slaves but friends v. Friend v is also found in 1:29 (friend. of groom), 11:11 (Lazarus our friend), 19:12 (friend of Caesar).	Gives it good (see 19 re obeying)
22	15:18-19	The world hates believers as it hates the Lord, because they don't belong to it. Otherwise, it would love v them. (Vv. 23-25 hating Christ = hating the Father.)	Honors those it honors
23	16:26-27	I don't say I will request the Father, because he loves v you because you have loved v me and believed that I came out from him.	Is devoted to (serves) it
24	17:20-23	The Son prays that future believers will be one...so that the world will know that the Father sent the Son and has loved them as he has loved the Son.	Is devoted to (serves) it
25	17:24	The Son prays for believers to be with him and see his glory given by the Father's love .	Is proud of it
26	17:25-26	The disciples have known that the Father sent the Son—and through the Son's revealing the Father's name have gained in themselves the same love the Father has to the Son.	Is proud of it

	REFERENCE	PARAPHRASE	WHAT LOVE DOES OR FEELS FOR ITS OBJECT
27	21:15-17	Three times the Lord asks Simon, “Do you love me?” (Last time is v.) Three times Simon answers “You know that I love you.” (All three times are v.)	Is devoted to (serves) it

See also the following passages with the concept of love:

1. 1:1,4 The Word=Life=the Light of men.
2. 1:14-17 The Word’s becoming flesh manifested and provided God’s grace.
3. 1:29,36 God’s Lamb pointed out by John the Baptist
4. In chapter 4 Jesus’ witnessing to the woman demonstrated his love, yet violated custom (v. 27) and hurt her with the truth in order to convict her.
5. 4:36 the joy of harvest
6. 4:47 The royal official’s effort showed love for his son.
7. 6:51 The Son will give his flesh for the life of the world. (12:24)
8. ?8:11 Neither do I condemn you.
9. 10:2-28 The shepherd’s care for his sheep: He enters the door (vv. 2-4), gives his life in order to give them life (vv. 10-11,14-15,27-28; cf. 15:13).
10. 12:3 Mary’s demonstration of love for the Lord

CONCLUSIONS:

1. Love does or feels the following for its object (numbers refer to passages in the chart):

Gives it good (1,3,4,21)	Is proud of it (7,25,26)
Tries to be near it (2,16)	Is emotionally attached to it (8,12)
Is devoted to it (5,11,18,19,23,24,27)	Gives it high priority (9,10,14,15)
Honors those it honors (6,22)	Seeks the best for it (13,17,20)

2. Since God is absolute light and life, He should and will be the center of the universe with nothing hindering His glory. This condition—or anything tending to establish it—can be called righteousness. Righteousness toward God and men is called love. Love desires and works toward full participation—with no barriers—between God and creation, a unity Jesus died to accomplish. Sin is anything opposed to this love. Love will be complete when all sin and its consequences (darkness, death, etc.) are abolished.