

1 CORINTHIANS 15:31 KJV I protest by your rejoicing which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die daily.

1 CORINTHIANS 4:9 ASV For, I think, God hath set forth us the apostles last of all, as men doomed to death: for we are made a spectacle unto the world, both to angels and men. 10 We are fools for Christ's sake, but ye are wise in Christ; we are weak, but ye are strong; ye have glory, but we have dishonor.

ACTS 20:23 Save that the Holy Ghost witnesseth in every city, saying that bonds and afflictions abide me.

ROMANS 8:36 As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.

II CORINTHIANS 4:10 KJV Always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our body. 11 For we which live are always delivered unto death for Jesus' sake, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our mortal flesh.

2 CORINTHIANS 11:23 ASV Are they ministers of Christ? (I speak as one beside himself) I more; in labors more abundantly, in prisons more abundantly, in stripes above measure, in deaths oft. 24 Of the Jews five times received I forty stripes save one. 25 Thrice was I beaten with rods, once was I stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day have I been in the deep; 26 in journeyings often, in perils of rivers, in perils of robbers, in perils from my countrymen, in perils from the Gentiles, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren; 27 in labor and travail, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness. 28 Besides those things that are without, there is that which presseth upon me daily, anxiety for all the churches. 29 Who is weak, and I am not weak? who is caused to stumble, and I burn not? 30 If I must needs glory, I will glory of the things that concern my weakness.

To truly do God's Will, a believer must completely crucify their own "self-will." This means surrendering what you think, what you feel, what you want, and what you like. The "carrying your cross daily" is not about enduring a physical burden. The carrying of the Cross means deliberately contradicting your own desires and feelings every day so that God's Will can be fulfilled. Jesus is the perfect model of doing the Father's Will. He stated, "I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me". Christ's greatest victory was not just at Calvary, but in the Garden of Gethsemane when He cried, "not my will, but thy will." That complete obedience and surrender of His own desires is what led to the victory of the cross.

You cannot understand or perform God's Will through human effort. Only those who possess the Zoe gene (the baptism of the Holy Ghost) has the divine ability to hear, comprehend, and obey God's true Will.

A "foolish virgin" or people in denominations can live highly moral and clean lives, but they cannot truly please God because they lack the specific gene required to understand His Will for the hour. **You cannot do God's Will if you do not know what it is, and you cannot know it unless it is taught to you.**

Therefore, doing God's Will is linked to honouring the messenger God sends for your age and submitting to your local shepherd. If you do the will of your local pastor (who is faithful to the Word), you are doing the will of the messenger, which is doing the will of Christ, which is doing the will of the Father. A God called man will only bring you what a vindicated prophet teaches. That is the will of God.

Doing God's Will does not bring a peaceful, problem-free life. In fact, true obedience will always cost you something whether it is your reputation, your relationships, or the approval of the world. Since the truth directly opposes the world and religious systems, anyone who boldly lives and speaks the Will of God will inevitably face affliction and persecution. However, God sovereignly uses this exact suffering to develop the believer's character and conform them into the image of His Son.

Just like the children of Israel in the wilderness, God deliberately leads our marriages to the bitter waters of Meribah. God allows financial lack, unfulfilled dreams, and stressful situations to test our faithfulness. Instead of passing the test with thanksgiving, families begin to complain about the groceries, the clothes, the house, and their unmet expectations. They complain that they aren't being treated like queens or kings. When we murmur instead of taking our problems to the Lord, we are acting in unbelief, forgetting the grace of God that brought us together. This is exactly how the enemy destroys the family.

In the wilderness, when the people murmured and complained against God the serpents were sent in to bite them.

When you start murmuring and complaining in your family, you are inviting the serpent into your house. Every time you fuss and complain about the condition God has placed you in, the serpent comes in and begins to bite your life. By complaining, you forget the power of the Cross and imitate a people who never entered into God's rest.

“Thinking about Thinking”

Higher Reasoning

Executive Function

Prefrontal Cortex

9 Functions of the Prefrontal Cortex

1. Empathy
2. Insight
3. Response Flexibility
4. Emotion Regulation
5. Body Regulation
6. Morality
7. Intuition
8. Attuned Communication
9. Fear Modulation



Limbic Brain

1. Fight, flight, freeze stress response
2. Thinks, "Am I safe? Do people want me?"
3. Emotions live here

The Scriptural Remedy

How do we defeat the enemy and heal our homes?

- First, we must handle our differences scripturally. If you have a grievance with your spouse, **go directly to them**. Do not go to your children, do not go to your friends, and do not run to the pastor go to your husband or your wife and reconcile.
- Second, we must change our vocabulary from fault-finding to praise. Leave the criticisms behind. If your spouse has problems, take those problems to the Lord; but take their good qualities and boast about them to others. Fill your home with encouraging and edifying words.
- Finally, **do not let pride keep you from repenting**.

Turn to your spouse today and say, "We need a new beginning. We need to go back to Calvary." Let us wash ourselves in the water of the Word, commit to helping one another, and banish the serpent of murmuring from our homes forever.

Going directly to the person involved is the primary scriptural method for handling grievances. Whether you have a problem with your family or a church member, rather than complaining to your children, friends, deacons, or the pastor you should approach them personally to resolve the issue.

Taking the initiative is also a requirement. If you know or even suspect someone has an issue with you, you must not wait for them to come to you.

MATTHEW 5:22 ASV but I say unto you, that every one who is angry with his brother shall be in danger of the judgment; and whosoever shall say to his brother, Raca, shall be in danger of the council; and whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of the hell of fire. 23 If therefore thou art offering thy gift at the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath aught against thee, 24 leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way, first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift

You are instructed to "leave your gift at the altar" and actively seek to reconcile with that person. When you communicate, you should be direct and **let the person know exactly what they did** and why you are upset, getting everything out in the open so the problem can be genuinely dealt with rather than artificially smoothed over. If a one-on-one conversation does not resolve the issue, the scriptural order involves **escalation through mediation**. You should take a deacon or another witness with you to try and reconcile; if that still fails, the matter can then be brought to the congregation. Furthermore, if a complaint is specifically against a church leader, such as a deacon, it must be supported by **two or three credible witnesses** before it is brought to the pastor to address. Finally, resolving differences scripturally requires **humility and a willingness to repent**.

Spouses and believers are encouraged to cast aside their pride, freely admit their faults to one another, and ask for forgiveness so they can start fresh. Ignoring a grievance, covering it up, or pretending it does not exist is contrary to the Word. You will be held accountable if you refuse to handle problems scripturally. When a problem arises between a husband and wife, the absolute first step is to go directly to the spouse to address the grievance privately. Spouses are specifically instructed not to bypass this step by complaining to their children, a deacon, or the pastor.

Mediation is only appropriate if the couple cannot reconcile the issue on their own. If a private resolution fails, the scriptural order permits escalating the matter by bringing in a "spiritual head," such as a deacon or another witness, to mediate and help resolve the dispute. If the spouse still refuses to receive this intervention, the matter can eventually be brought to the church. However, in the event a Husband who is supposed to be the reflector of Christ actual reflects Anti-Christ, the wife has the right to approach the deacons. The deacons must record the meetings. If the issues persist either by the wife or the husband the matter is escalated to the pastor. Such records are given to the pastor for intervention.

Running to a pastor or deacon for every marital dispute breaks the scriptural order.

If church leaders are willing to step in to mediate every time a couple has a problem, they are encouraging believers to violate the Word. Believers must be taught to act on the Word themselves so they can become genuine reconcilers and peacemakers within their own homes.

A "wilderness test" for a godly family is a challenging season or "rough area" that God deliberately leads a marriage into, such as periods of financial lack, emotional struggle, or facing unfulfilled dreams, like the Israelites being tested at the bitter waters of Meribah in the wilderness.

Agape is the Will of God in Action

The biblical definition of Agape is found in **2 JOHN 1:6** "*And this is love, that we walk after his commandments*". God's commandments are His revealed Will or the Word for your day. Therefore, you cannot separate Agape from walking in, keeping, and living by the Will of God. Agape is not a feeling, an emotion, or human sympathy. Those are characteristics of *phileo* (human affection), which even unconverted people possess naturally. **Agape simply means doing the Will of God regardless of how you feel.**

The word picture for Agape is the feelings, relationship, and responsibility of a King. This is towards His subjects, and in return, the subjects' responsibility towards their King. God expresses Agape by being completely responsible for providing everything His elect need to reach adoption. In return, the subject's Agape towards God is pure obedience to the King's decree. Agape is total submission to God's Will; it requires the absolute death of **self-will**.

The opposite of God's love is self-love and self-trust. To truly love God, in your daily walk of life we must stop operating on what *you* want, what *you* feel, what *you* think, or what *you* like. The "picking up your cross daily" is not about carrying a physical burden; it means deliberately contradicting your own will and desires every day so that God's Will can be fulfilled.

Jesus expressed perfect Agape because He never sought His own will. He stated, in **JOHN 5:30** *I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me.* When Jesus called the Pharisees hypocrites, snakes, or physically whipped them out of the temple, He was expressing Agape because He was strictly doing the Father's Will by speaking the truth. His ultimate expression of Agape was not just the physical cross, but His surrender in Gethsemane, crying "not my will, but thy will," effectively sacrificing His own desires for the Father's.

Agape Towards Your Enemies

This understanding drastically changes what it means to "love your enemy." God never asks you to *phileo* (have warm affection or friendship for) your enemy. To *Agape* your enemy simply means to treat them exactly as the Will of God dictates. If they are hungry or thirsty, you feed them and give them drink, because God causes it to rain on both the just and unjust.

However, **Agape does not mean bringing them into your home for coffee, having communion with them, or compromising the truth to spare their feelings.**

The command to "love your enemy" is radically redefined when you understand that God's love is based on His will rather than human emotion. **God never commanded believers to have *phileo* (affection or friendship) for their enemies.** You are not required to like them or feel emotional warmth toward them.

Here is how a believer is supposed to treat their enemies through the lens of true Agape.

Meeting Needs, Not Making Friends

To *Agape* your enemy simply means to treat them exactly as the will of God dictates. Because God causes the sun to shine and the rain to fall on both the just and the unjust, *Agape* requires that if your enemy is hungry, you feed them; if they are thirsty, you give them a drink. However, **this does not mean you are supposed to invite them into your home for coffee, have communion with them, or try to win them over with friendship.** You provide for their basic needs without compromising your separation from their unbelief.

Speaking the Straight Truth

Human sympathy often confuses love with always being sweet, gentle, and quiet so as not to offend anyone. Note that **love is straight and telling the truth is an act of Agape.** Jesus expressed perfect *Agape* when He called the Pharisees hypocrites, snakes, and white-washed sepulchers, or when He physically drove them out of the temple, because He was speaking and acting in absolute obedience to God's truth.

Appreciating Their Purpose in Your Life

Perhaps the most profound shift is recognizing that **your enemies are specifically chosen and foreordained by God for your perfection.** You cannot develop spiritual character, patience, or wisdom without tribulation, and God uses difficult people whether an unfair boss, a lying accuser, or a religious opponent as tutoring tools to test your reactions. Because they serve such a vital purpose in God's plan for you, true *Agape* means you do not pray for their destruction, you do not seek revenge, and you do not rejoice when they stumble or fall. Instead, you learn to appreciate them as tools of God's wisdom designed for your ultimate good.

Taking **1 Corinthians 13** as the complete and absolute definition of God's love traps believers in a deceptive "Jesus complex", where they mistake human sympathy for true **Agape**.

The Illusion of the "Fruits of the Spirit"

Traditionally, believers have used the traits listed in **1 Corinthians 13** being gentle, kind, patient, and long-suffering as the ultimate measuring stick to determine if someone has the Holy Spirit. However, these are internal emotional traits that can easily be impersonated by human **phileo** (affectionate) love. Even unconverted people, the "foolish virgin," or those in denominations can naturally be sweet, quiet, and live highly moral lives without being born again. If you measure Christianity strictly by how gentle or non-confrontational someone is, you will be deceived by religious spirits that act holy but reject the truth.

Putting God and Jesus on Trial

If **1 Corinthians 13** were the absolute and only definition of love, then God and Jesus Christ would fail their own test.

- Jesus was not acting "gentle" or "kind" when he braided a whip to drive people out of the temple, or when he bluntly called the Pharisees hypocrites, snakes, and white-washed sepulchres.
- God was not displaying long-suffering or sweetness when He ordered the prophet Samuel to hack King Agag to pieces, or when He commanded Joshua to wipe out entire populations.

If you view God exclusively through the lens of a gentle, "powder puff Jesus" who never offends anyone, you will misjudge His true nature, His sovereignty, and His justice.

1 Corinthians 13 is Only "One Face of a Pyramid"

1 Corinthians 13 is like a pyramid it only shows one single face of God's love. The qualities of patience, kindness, and gentleness are entirely conditional; they must be governed by the specific will of God for that exact moment. Sometimes the will of God calls for a kind response, but at other times, true **Agape** demands strict rebuke, separation, or righteous anger. True **Agape** means doing the will of God regardless of human feelings, even if the required action seems harsh, blunt, or humiliating.

The True Evidence of the Holy Ghost

Human emotions can be faked, we must emphasize that the true evidence of having the Holy Ghost is not possessing the emotional fruits of love, joy, and peace. The real evidence is possessing the divine nature (the **Zoe** gene) that gives a believer the ability to hear, understand, and fully obey the revealed Word of God for their specific day.

Righteous Anger (Defending God's Word)

A true believer *should* experience anger when confronting deception, false doctrines, or the perversion of God's truth. True "righteous indignation" rises when you are defending God, His character, or His people. There is no room for patience or long-suffering when the Word of God is actively being violated. When a person is angry strictly for righteousness' sake, God shares in that anger, making it a pure expression of defending the truth.

Carnal Anger (Defending Yourself)

Anger crosses the line into becoming carnal the exact moment it is used for personal defence. **"You should never use anger to defend yourself. That is when it becomes carnal"**. If your anger is triggered because you were personally hurt, insulted, or targeted by an enemy, God is not in that anger. Reacting impulsively to protect your own pride or reputation is a product of self-love, and using anger to fight for yourself is always considered carnal.

How to Handle Personal Offenses

Righteous and carnal anger might look identical on the outside, but God judges the inward motive. When someone hurts or mistreats you personally, here is how you must handle it:

Do not react out of offense: If you correct or lash out at someone because you are personally offended, it is the wrong spirit.

Examine your own weaknesses:

If someone's behaviour is constantly aggravating you, you must stop looking at their flaws and look inward, asking, "Why is this aggravating me? What's it telling me about myself?".

Recognize God's permission:

God deliberately permits these difficult people to provoke you so that your own spiritual holes and weaknesses are exposed, acting as a mirror to show you where you need to grow. Ultimately, any correction you bring to another person must stem purely from a desire to protect the church body or defend the truth, never to satisfy your own personal aggravation.

When facing hatred, opposition, or rejection from the "twins", the unconverted individuals who share the same message or church but lack the divine **Zoe** gene believers are to react with a complete shift in mindset. Instead of responding with human emotion, you must respond with true **Agape**, which means doing the will of God.

Here is exactly how believers to react to the "twins":

1. Recognize the Hatred as Confirmation

First, you must expect to be hated and understand that this hatred is proof of your standing with God. If you are truly the light of the world and speak the absolute truth, the twins *ought* to hate you and want to kill your influence. They do not have the *Zoe* gene to love the revealed Word, they inherently hate the truth; therefore, they are hating God without even realizing it. Being rejected for the doctrine you hold is the ultimate confirmation that you possess the genuine Holy Ghost.

2. Do Not Retaliate Carnally

When the twins revile, curse, or speak evil of you, you are strictly commanded not to revile or curse back. You must never use carnal anger to defend yourself or protect your own reputation. If the offense is personal, you must bear it without seeking revenge or trying to force them to change their hatred into friendship.

3. Speak the Truth Boldly and Separate

While you do not retaliate with personal insults, *Agape* love demands that you do not stay quiet when the truth of the Word is being compromised. The idea that "love" does not mean forced fellowship or compromising to keep the peace. When dealing with false teachers or twins causing division, the biblical command is to **"mark them"** and **"avoid them"**. You are instructed to "withdraw yourself" from any brother walking disorderly. Furthermore, just as the mature Ephesian church was commended by God for doing so, you are expected to boldly call false ministries "liars" and hate their deceptive deeds.

4. Appreciate Them as God's Tutors

Instead of acting like a "victim" and murmuring about how unfairly you are treated, you must realize that God specifically ordained these exact enemies for your perfection. You must learn to appreciate your enemies, recognizing that without their opposition, your spiritual character, patience, and wisdom could never be fully developed. **"Your enemy is the love of God to you,"** because God uses them to mold you into the image of Christ.

5. Do Not Rejoice in Their Downfall

Even though you must separate from the twins and boldly call out their error, you must never pray for their destruction. **"Rejoice not when thy enemy falleth, and let not thy heart be glad when he stumbleth".**

To rejoice in their calamity displeases God because it shows a failure to appreciate the vital, God-ordained purpose they served in your spiritual training. Crucially, no human being can love God or understand His Will through their own effort.

You can only **Agape** God if He first gives you the **Zoe** gene the divine nature or baptism of the Holy Ghost. Without this specific gene, it is impossible to genuinely hunger for, understand, or obey the true Will of God. In the Ephesian pattern, marriage is a profound spiritual type of Christ and the true Church, and **Agape** is the driving force behind it. While humans naturally possess **eros** (romantic love) and **phileo** (affection or friendship), true **Agape** is not based on feelings or emotion; it is strictly performing the Will of God within your specific marital role.

The Husband's Agape: The Priest and Mercy Seat

The Will of God commands the husband to love his wife "even as Christ loved the church". In practice, this means the husband must act as the "mercy seat" and priest for his home. If his wife makes mistakes or has faults, **Agape** dictates that he covers her with prayer and intercession, rather than exposing her flaws, complaining, or murmuring to others. Furthermore, God will specifically use the imperfections of a wife to test the husband. A "perfect wife" would require no grace, patience, or long-suffering, thereby removing the husband's opportunity to act as a merciful priest. Therefore, accepting and enduring a difficult or imperfect spouse without complaining is a direct expression of **Agape**, as the husband is submitting his own will to God's sovereign design for his character development.

The Wife's Agape: Fulfilling the First Commandment

The wife's role, noting that the woman was created specifically for the man, to serve, help, and fulfil his needs. When a wife places her husband's needs and desires above her own, she is living out the mystery of the First Commandment typing how the Church exists entirely to serve, satisfy, and bring fulfilment to God. **Agape** in a wife means deliberately learning her husband's will, his likes, and his dislikes, and then sacrificing her own will and preferences to please him. In doing so, God expects an "Academy Award performance" from her as she perfects the three specific areas: *womanhood, motherhood, and wifeness*.

For this Ephesian pattern to truly succeed, a couple must be "equally yoked." This does not just mean attending the same church; it means both individuals possess the **Zoe** gene and are yoked to the Father's Will. When marital conflicts arise, they are usually rooted in self-will and pride. However, because an equally yoked couple shares the exact same Absolute (the revealed Word of God), they can bypass their own feelings and effortlessly resolve arguments by submitting to what the message dictates.

God is **Agape**. God is **Zoe**. Zoe has a nature - that nature is purpose driven. He wants to accomplish something; He has a purpose.

The Apostolic Soul

Divine Origin, Authority, and Commission



GOD & THEOPHANY STATE

The soul does not originate from the periodic chart or earth's atoms; it operates on a Zoe wave of life.

NATURE AND COMPOSITION

The Zoe Wave vs. Brain Waves

The Subconscious Man: Contacts God and walks by faith, not physical senses.

Theophanic Material

A spiritual material, like God's substance, human soul is a "secondary god" on earth.

GENDERLESSNESS AND THE "WOMB OF EARTH"

Souls are Genderless: No male or female in theophany state, like angels, they do not marry until embodied.

The Body as a "Womb":

A physical womb of earth created by God to house the soul for its earthly mission.

God Determines the Gender:

God chooses the specific body and commissions the soul to fulfil that gender's duties.

Setting the Body in Order:

Primary duty to "set in order" the fleshly body to obey divine instructions and doctrine.

Ruling the "Garden":

Keep the "garden" of the body; prevent negative thoughts or "poisonous seeds" from entering.

PHYSICAL AUTHORITY AND DOMINION

Authority over the Elements: Original dominion over all things: wildlife, elements, and the physical senses.

Power through Revelation:

True authority via communication with God through revelation and the prayer of faith.

AGAPE: THE DIVINE WILL IN ACTION

THE HUMAN MISCONCEPTION: PHILEO (EMOTION)



Origin:
Natural human sympathy & affection

Foundation:
Personal feelings, likes, & dislikes

Expression:
Always seeks to be "sweet" or gentle

Agape is Action, Not Emotion

True love is doing God's Will regardless of human feelings or personal preferences.



Action Over Feelings



The Danger of Murmuring

Complaining about difficult "wilderness tests" invites spiritual destruction into your home and life.

The Requirement of the "Zoe" Gene

Only those with the Holy Ghost can comprehend or obey God's revealed Will.



The Gethsemane Model

Christ's victory was surrendering His own desires to the Father's sovereign plan.

THE DIVINE TRUTH: AGAPE (OBEDIENCE)



Origin:
The Zoe Gene / Holy Spirit

Foundation:
Scriptural commandments and Will

Expression:
Can be stern (rebuking Pharisees)

PRACTICING THE SCRIPTURAL ORDER



Resolve Grievances Directly

Go to the person privately first; do not complain to children or leaders.



Love Your Enemy via Boundaries

Meet their basic physical needs without compromising the Truth or seeking their friendship.

True Agape: Living the Will of God

THE SCRIPTURAL REMEDY FOR CONFLICT



STEP 1: DIRECT RECONCILIATION
Go directly to the person involved (spouse or brother) to resolve privately.



STEP 2: TAKE THE INITIATIVE
Do not wait; leave your "gift at the altar" and seek reconciliation first.



STEP 3: SCRIPTURAL ESCALATION
If private fails, bring a witness; only after mediation fails, involve pastor/congregation.

BANISH THE "SERPENT OF MURMURING"



Complaining and murmuring invites the enemy into your home; take grievances to the Lord, praise is shared with others.

AGAPE vs. PHILEO



AGAPE
(KING-SUBJECT RESPONSIBILITY)
Based on obedience to commandments

vs.



PHILEO
(HUMAN AFFECTION/SYMPATHY)
Merely human affection; even the unconverted possess

THE FOUNDATION OF GOD'S WILL



THE GETHESEMANE MODEL

Total crucifixion of "self-will" (thoughts, feelings, wants) – echoing "not my will, but thy will"

AGAPE IN RELATIONSHIPS

AGAPE TOWARDS ENEMIES

Meet basic needs without requiring friendship or communion; appreciate them as "tutors" to perfect your character.



RIGHTEOUS vs. CARNAL ANGER



RIGHTEOUS **CARNAL**
Anger is righteous when defending God's Word, but carnal for personal defense.

THE EPHESIAN MARRIAGE PATTERN



MERCY SEAT (PRIEST)
Covers wife's faults.
SACRIFICE
Sacrifices own will to serve and fulfill husband's needs.

THE EVIDENCE OF THE HOLY GHOST

BEYOND 1 CORINTHIANS 13



OBEY REVEALED WORD FOR YOUR DAY
The true evidence is the ability to obey the revealed Word for your day.



THE WILDERNESS TEST

God leads families into "bitter waters" (financial lack or stress) to expose spiritual weaknesses and test faithfulness to the Word.