

**JOHN 21:15-17 #2**  
November 21, 1993  
**ROME GEORGIA**  
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Two words used for "feed" my sheep.

v. **15** and **17** use a word which means "to provide food and pasture."

the other word is used in v. **16** and means not only to "provide food and pasture " but **also "to lead and direct and do the work of a shepherd."** There is more to "shepherding" than throwing out a few bales of hay. A good shepherd also leads his flock around the pitfalls and dangers that stand in their way. There are wolves and poisonous plants that can harm the flock. Vigilance is the key for a "good shepherd".

**THE KEY TO A GOOD SHEPHERD IS ALSO FOUND IN THESE VERSES.**

Being thankful is a matter of Love. You don't have to Love everyone that you thank or are thankful for. Love for an individual will however cause us to be thankful for and to that one loved. We tend to "LOVE" that which is "PRECIOUS" to us.

ACCORDING TO KENNETH WUEST:

"**PHILEO**" - is a love which consists in the **glow of the heart kindled by the perception of that in the object which affords us pleasure.** It is the response of the human spirit to what appeals to it as pleasurable. . . . The word was used to speak of a friendly affection. It is a love called out of one in response to a feeling of pleasure and delight which one experiences from an apprehension of qualities in another that furnish such pleasure or delight."

"**AGAPAO**" on the other hand, speaks of a love which is **awakened by a sense of value** in the object loved, an apprehension of its preciousness.

We normally think of love (whether Agapao or Phileo) as a good and positive emotion. But this is not always the case.

THE PLACE THAT WE CENTER OUR AFFECTION IS OF PARAMOUNT IMPORTANCE.

**Matt. 10:37** - informs us that there are those who take more care for their family than they do for their Lord - of them Jesus says what?  
" . . . is not worthy of me."

**Matt. 6:5** tells us that there are Hypocrites who love (*Phileo*) to pray and be seen by men so doing.

**Matt. 23:5-6** . . . love (*Phileo*) the chief seats."

Luke 20:46 warns us to beware of these men.

In Revelation 22:15 we find that some people LOVE (*Phileo*) the lies that the world has to offer.

That which gives them pleasure is that which God cannot tolerate. There are those who find so much pleasure in a lie - that they will go to hell rather than believe the truth!

BUT - PHILEO CAN ALSO BE A VERY POSITIVE FORCE. JOHN 11:3 (*Phileo*) AND 36 LAZARUS/JESUS. (*Phileo*).

"Agapao is a love springing from a sense of the preciousness of the Object loved while phileo arises from a sense of pleasure in the object Loved. When used in a good meaning, both are legitimate, but, agapao is the Nobler of the two." WUEST P. 63 NUGGETS.

Jesus used AGAPAO in v. 15-16 but changed it to PHILEO in v. 17.

Lest you think that Phileo is not a valid love - consider

John16:27 For the Father himself loveth *Phileo* you, because ye have loved *Phileo* me, and have believed that I came out from God.

PETER HAD A PHILEO LOVE FOR JESUS - BUT IN THE DAYS TO COME HE WOULD PERCEIVE MORE AND MORE THE PRECIOUSNESS OF THE ONE HE PHILEO(ed) AND TRULY BEGIN TO AGAPAO HIM!.

I PETER 1:18-19 Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation *received* by tradition from your fathers;

19 But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:

I PETER 2:6-7 Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded.

1Pe 2:7 **Unto you therefore which believe *he is precious***: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner,

II PETER 1:1 . . Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that have **obtained like precious faith with us** through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ:

2 Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord,

PETER DID AS PAUL DID - PHIL. 3:13-14. Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but *this* one thing *I do*, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,

14 I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

**PETER** MOVED ON WITH HIS LIFE AND WITH HIS LOVE FOR THE SAVIOR.

*(I think that in most our personal relationships, if they ever develop, we move from Phileo to Agape. It is extremely difficult to Agape those who are not first Phileoed.???????????)*

**"LOVE"= AGAPE" AFFECTION" = PHILEO**

Jesus asked "do you love me." Peter answered, "you know that I have **affection** for you."

**Peter was cautious in his reply. Previously, his impulsive nature had caused his mouth to run ahead of his courage. Now he chooses his words more carefully.**

The most important grace that a believer may possess is love for the Lord Jesus.

Eloquence, musical ability, intelligence, wealth, nationality - nothing matters more than love for Jesus.

Without a doubt, Peter learned to love the Lord more and more each day.

WHAT REPLY COULD YOU GIVE THE MASTER THIS DAY IF THE QUESTION WERE ASKED OF YOU - LOVEST THOU ME? -

One man was thinking on this passage as he walked down a long road After hearing a message on this matter. As he walked, he talked to the Lord. He wondered how he could love the lord as Peter did. As he walked, he Reasoned this way:

**"I could not say, lord thou knowest I do not love thee."**

with that Thought, he received some comfort.

Then he thought:" **Lord, thou knowest I want to love thee."**

Then he thought on Jesus' great love for him. And with that thought he could firmly reply to the saviors question - "**Lord, thou knowest I do love thee,**" TAN 3216