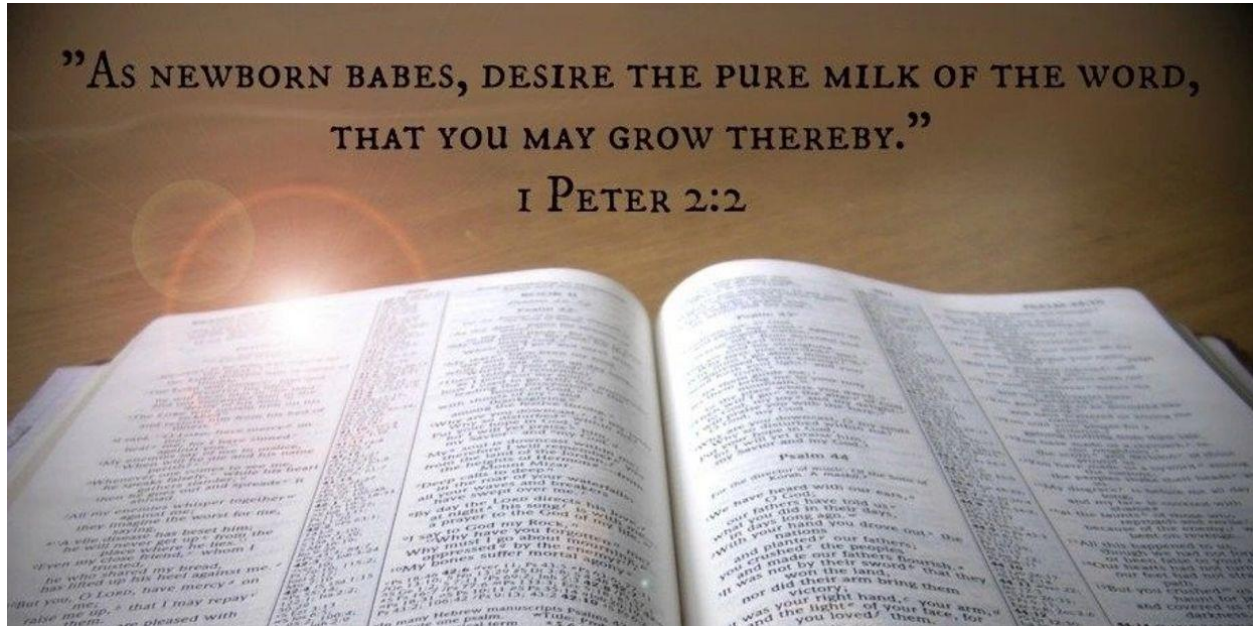


The Right Path

The Truth About Faith The Gospel of Salvation



The Truth About Faith The Gospel Of Salvation

Growing in the Lord

Together we need to grow in our Lord Christ Jesus through the teachings and commandments that our Lord Christ Jesus has given us in all that he spoke ([Matthew 28:18-20](#), [Luke 1:1-4](#), [John 14:15](#), [Acts 1:1-4](#), [Hebrews 1:1-4](#)), his Apostles teachings ([Acts 1:1-2](#), [Acts 2:42](#), [Romans 1:1-6](#)), and the Lord's brothers James and Jude ([James 1:1](#), [Jude 1:1](#)), and the former teachings and examples of the Old Testament revealed by the Holy Spirit ([John 16:5-15](#), [Romans 15:4](#), [2 Timothy 3:16](#), [2 Peter 1:19-21 NASB](#)).

Strong's Concordance

auxanó: to make to grow, to grow

Strong's Number: [G837](#) (added)

Original Word: αὐξάνω

Part of Speech: Verb

Transliteration: auxanó

Phonetic Spelling: (owx-an'-o)

Definition: to make to grow, to grow

Usage: (a) I cause to increase, become greater (b) I increase, grow.

HELPS Word-studies

[837](#) auksánō – properly, grow (increase); become greater in size (maturity, etc.). [837/auksánō](#) ("to grow") is key to authentic discipleship. Indeed, the Lord requires non-stop progress (development) in the life of faith.

After hearing and believing the inspired word of God (the word of truth) about Christ Jesus the gospel of your salvation and believing in him, and becoming obedient to the faith ([Romans 1:1-6 NASB](#), [Romans 6:16-17 NASB](#), [Romans 15:18 NASB](#)), and after being baptized into the body of Christ and receiving the gift of the Holy Spirit ([Acts 2:38](#)), having an appeal to God for a good conscience ([1 Peter 3:21](#)), we can begin our walk-in newness of life ([2 Corinthians 5:17](#), [Romans 6:3-4](#), [Romans 7:4-6](#), [Romans 8:10-11](#)) and be the children of God that God's wants us to be ([John 1:12](#), [Romans 8:16-17](#), [Galatians 3:26-28](#), [Ephesians 5:8-9](#), [1 Thessalonians 5:4-11](#), [1 Peter 2:2-5](#)).

Our Lord Jesus tells us that we are not to be part of this world but be salt of the earth, and a light in this world ([Matthew 5:13-16](#), [John 8:12](#), [John 17:1-26](#), [James 4:4](#)), the Apostle Paul tells us that we are light of the Lord and to walk as children of light ([Ephesians 5:8-9](#), [Philippians 2:12-16](#)), the Apostle John tells us that we are children of God and that we are not to love this world for all that is in the world, the desires of the flesh, the desires of the eyes and the pride of life, that this not from the Father but is from the world and we are to overcome the world through our faith ([1 John 2:15-17](#), [1 John 3:1](#), [1 John 5:4](#)).

In these scriptural passages and verses reflect but just some of the teachings for us to understand and learn from.

[Matthew 5:43-48](#)

⁴³ say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, ⁴⁵ so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. ⁴⁶ For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? ⁴⁷ And if you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? ⁴⁸ You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

Strong's Concordance

agapaó: to love

Strong's Number: [G25](#) (added)

Original Word: ἀγαπάω

Part of Speech: Verb

Transliteration: agapaó

Phonetic Spelling: (ag-ap-ah'-o)

Definition: to love

Usage: I love, wish well to, take pleasure in, long for; denotes the love of reason, esteem.

HELPS Word-studies

Cognate: [25](#) *agapáō* – properly, to *prefer*, to *love*; for the believer, *preferring to "live through Christ"* (1 John 4:9,10), i.e. embracing God's will (choosing His choices) and obeying them through His power. [25](#) (*agapáō*) preeminently refers to what *God prefers* as He "is love" ([1 John 4:8,16](#)). [See 26](#) (*agapē*).

With the believer, [25](#) /*agapáō* ("to love") means actively doing what *the Lord* prefers, *with Him* (by His power and direction). True [25](#) /*agapáō* ("loving") is always *defined by God* – a "*discriminating affection which involves choice and selection*" (WS, 477). [1 John 4:8,16,17](#) for example convey how loving ("preferring," [25](#) /*agapáō*) is Christ *living His life through* the believer.

[Matthew 7:12-14](#)

12 "So whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets. 13 "Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many. 14 For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few.

[Matthew 18:1-6](#)

1 At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?" 2 And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them 3 and said, "Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. 4 Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. 5 "Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, 6 but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea.

[Matthew 24:43-51](#)

⁴³ But know this, that if the master of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into.

⁴⁴ Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

⁴⁵ "Who then is the faithful and wise servant, whom his master has set over his household, to give them their food at the proper time? ⁴⁶ Blessed is that servant whom his master will find so doing when he comes. ⁴⁷ Truly, I say to you, he will set him over all his possessions. ⁴⁸ But if that wicked servant says to himself, 'My master is delayed,' ⁴⁹ and begins to beat his fellow servants and eats and drinks with drunkards, ⁵⁰ the master of that servant will come on a day when he does not expect him and at an hour he does not know ⁵¹ and will cut him in pieces and put him with the hypocrites. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

[Luke 6:35](#)

35 But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he is kind to the ungrateful and the evil.

[Luke 13:24](#)

24 “Strive to enter through the narrow door. For many, I tell you, will seek to enter and will not be able.

[Acts 8:18-24](#)

18 Now when Simon saw that the Spirit was given through the laying on of the apostles' hands, he offered them money, 19 saying, “Give me this power also, so that anyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the Holy Spirit.” 20 But Peter said to him, “May your silver perish with you, because you thought you could obtain the gift of God with money! 21 You have neither part nor lot in this matter, for your heart is not right before God. 22 Repent, therefore, of this wickedness of yours, and pray to the Lord that, if possible, the intent of your heart may be forgiven you. 23 For I see that you are in the gall of bitterness and in the bond of iniquity.” 24 And Simon answered, “Pray for me to the Lord, that nothing of what you have said may come upon me.”

[Romans 12:1-21 NASB](#)

¹ Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship. ² And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect. ³ For through the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think; but to think so as to have sound judgment, as God has allotted to each a measure of faith. ⁴ For just as we have many members in one body and all the members do not have the same function, ⁵ so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. ⁶ Since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, each of us is to exercise them accordingly: if prophecy, according to the proportion of his faith; ⁷ if service, in his serving; or he who teaches, in his teaching; ⁸ or he who exhorts, in his exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness. ⁹ Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil; cling to what is good. ¹⁰ Be devoted to one another in brotherly love; give preference to one another in honor; ¹¹ not lagging behind in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; ¹² rejoicing in hope, persevering in tribulation, devoted to prayer, ¹³ contributing to the needs of the saints, practicing hospitality. ¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep. ¹⁶ Be of the same mind toward one another; do not be haughty in mind, but associate with the lowly. Do not be wise in your own estimation. ¹⁷ Never pay back evil for evil to anyone. Respect what is right in the sight of all men. ¹⁸ If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all men. ¹⁹ Never take your own revenge, beloved, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, “VENGEANCE IS MINE, I WILL REPAY,” says the Lord. ²⁰ “BUT IF YOUR ENEMY IS HUNGRY, FEED HIM, AND IF HE IS THIRSTY, GIVE HIM A DRINK; FOR IN SO DOING YOU WILL HEAP BURNING COALS ON HIS HEAD.” ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Strong's Concordance

zeó: to boil, be hot

Strong's Number: [G2204](#) (added)

Original Word: ζέω

Part of Speech: Verb

Transliteration: zeó

Phonetic Spelling: (dzeh'-o)

Definition: to boil, be hot

Usage: (lit: I boil, am boiling), I burn (in spirit), am fervent.

HELPS Word-studies

Cognate: [2204](#) *zēō* (onomatopoetic for the sound of boiling water, perhaps a primitive verb) – properly, to bubble over because *hot* enough to *boil* (J. Thayer); (figuratively) to show great *zeal*; be *ardently passionate* (literally "boiling" with interest or desire); "to be deeply committed to something, with the implication of accompanying desire – 'to be earnest, to set one's heart on, to be completely intent upon' " (*L & N*, 1, 25.76); *very fervent*. [See 2205](#) (*zēlos*).

[[2204](#) (*zēō*) is "formed from the participle of the Latin *ferveo*, 'to boil or ferment,' is an exact translation of this word, which means 'to seethe or bubble,' and is therefore used figuratively of mental states and emotions" (*WS*, 268).]

[Romans 16:17-18](#)

17 I appeal to you, brothers, to watch out for those who cause divisions and create obstacles contrary to the doctrine that you have been taught; avoid them. 18 For such persons do not serve our Lord Christ, but their own appetites, and by smooth talk and flattery they deceive the hearts of the naive.

[1 Corinthians 10:23 - 11:1](#)

23 "All things are lawful," but not all things are helpful. "All things are lawful," but not all things build up. 24 Let no one seek his own good, but the good of his neighbor. 25 Eat whatever is sold in the meat market without raising any question on the ground of conscience. 26 For "the earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof." 27 If one of the unbelievers invites you to dinner and you are disposed to go, eat whatever is set before you without raising any question on the ground of conscience. 28 But if someone says to you, "This has been offered in sacrifice," then do not eat it, for the sake of the one who informed you, and for the sake of conscience— 29 I do not mean your conscience, but his. For why should my liberty be determined by someone else's conscience? 30 If I partake with thankfulness, why am I denounced because of that for which I give thanks? 31 So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God. 32 Give no offense to Jews or to Greeks or to the church of God, 33 just as I try to please everyone in everything I do, not seeking my own advantage, but that of many, that they may be saved. 11:1 Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.

[1 Corinthians 13:1-13](#)

1 If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. 2 And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. 3 If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing. 4 Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant 5 or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; 6 it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. 7 Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. 8 Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away. 9 For we know in part and we prophesy in part, 10 but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away. 11 When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways. 12 For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known. 13 So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

[2 Corinthians 2:14-17](#)

14 But thanks be to God, who in Christ always leads us in triumphal procession, and through us spreads the fragrance of the knowledge of him everywhere. 15 For we are the aroma of Christ to God among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing, 16 to one a fragrance from death to death, to the other a fragrance from life to life. Who is sufficient for these things? 17 For we are not, like so many, peddlers of God's word, but as men of sincerity, as commissioned by God, in the sight of God we speak in Christ.

[2 Corinthians 4:7-12](#)

7 But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us. 8 We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; 9 persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; 10 always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies. 11 For we who live are always being given over to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. 12 So death is at work in us, but life in you.

[2 Corinthians 8:7-15](#)

7 But as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in all earnestness, and in our love for you—see that you excel in this act of grace also. 8 I say this not as a command, but to prove by the earnestness of others that your love also is genuine. 9 For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich. 10 And in this matter I give my judgment: this benefits you, who a year ago started not only to do this work but also to desire to do it. 11 So now finish doing it as well, so that your readiness in desiring it may be matched by your completing it out of what you have. 12 For if the readiness is there, it is acceptable according to what a person has, not according to what he does not have.

13 For I do not mean that others should be eased and you burdened, but that as a matter of fairness 14 your abundance at the present time should supply their need, so that their abundance may supply your need, that there may be fairness. 15 As it is written, “Whoever gathered much had nothing left over, and whoever gathered little had no lack.”

Strong's Concordance

spoudé: haste, diligence

Strong's Number: [G4710](#) (added)

Original Word: σπουδή, ἥς, ἥ

Part of Speech: Noun, Feminine

Transliteration: spoudé

Phonetic Spelling: (spoo-day')

Definition: haste, diligence

Usage: (a) speed, haste, (b) diligence, earnestness, enthusiasm.

HELPS Word-studies

[G4710](#) *spoudé* (from [4692](#) /*speúdō*, "move quickly, speed on") – properly, swiftness to show *zealous diligence*, i.e. one's "best" (full effort by making haste).

For the believer, [4710](#) /*spoudé* ("speedy diligence") means *quickly obeying* what the Lord reveals is *His priority*. This elevates the *better* over the good – the *more important* over the important – and does so with *earnest swiftness* (intensity).

[Galatians 5:13-26 NASB](#)

13 For you were called to freedom, brethren; only *do not turn* your freedom into an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. 14 For the whole Law is fulfilled in one word, in the *statement*, “YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.” 15 But if you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another. 16 But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh. 17 For the flesh sets its desire against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; for these are in opposition to one another, so that you may not do the things that you please. 18 But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the Law. 19 Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality, 20 idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions, 21 envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these, of which I forewarn you, just as I have forewarned you, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. 22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. 24 Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. 25 If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit. 26 Let us not become boastful, challenging one another, envying one another.

Strong's Concordance**echthra: enmity, hostility****Strong's Number:** [G2189](#) (added)**English:** enmities (added)**Original Word:** ἔχθρα, ας, ἡ**Part of Speech:** Noun, Feminine**Transliteration:** echthra**Phonetic Spelling:** (ekh'-thrah)**Definition:** yesterday**Usage:** enmity, hostility, alienation.**HELPS Word-studies**Cognate: [2189](#) éxthra – properly, enemy (hatred, hostility); enmity. See [2190](#) (exthros).**Strong's Concordance****hairesis: choice, opinion****Strong's Number:** [G139](#) (added)**English:** factions (added)**Original Word:** αἵρεσις, εως, ἡ**Part of Speech:** Noun, Feminine**Transliteration:** hairesis**Phonetic Spelling:** (hah'-ee-res-is)**Definition:** choice, opinion**Usage:** a self-chosen opinion, a religious or philosophical sect, discord or contention.**HELPS Word-studies**[139](#) haíresis (a feminine noun derived from [138](#) /hairéomai, "personally select, choose") – properly, a personal (decisive) choice.

[139](#) /haíresis ("a strong, distinctive opinion") is used in the NT of individual "parties (sects)" that operated within Judaism. The term stresses the personal aspect of choice – and hence how being a Sadducee ([Acts 5:17](#)) was sharply distinguished from being a Pharisee ([Acts 15:5](#); [26:5](#)).

[As a feminine noun, [139](#) (haíresis) highlights the subjective (individual) nature of a specific (divisive) opinion.]

[Galatians 6:1-9](#)

1 Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted. 2 Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. 3 For if anyone thinks he is something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself. 4 But let each one test his own work, and then his reason to boast will be in himself alone and not in his neighbor. 5 For each will have to bear his own load. 6 Let the one who is taught the word share all good things with the one who teaches.

7 Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. 8 For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life. 9 And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.

Strong's Concordance

paraptóma: a false step, a trespass

Strong's Number: [G3900](#) (added)

English: transgression (added)

Original Word: παράπτωμα, ατος, τό

Part of Speech: Noun, Neuter

Transliteration: paraptóma

Phonetic Spelling: (par-ap'-to-mah)

Definition: a false step, a trespass

Usage: a falling away, lapse, slip, false step, trespass, sin.

HELPS Word-studies

[3900](#) paráptōma (from [3895](#) /parapíptō, see there) – properly, fall away after being close-beside, i.e. a lapse (deviation) from the truth; an error, "slip up"; wrong doing that can be (relatively) unconscious, "non-deliberate."

[Ephesians 4:15-16](#)

15 Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, 16 from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

[Ephesians 5:1-21](#)

1 Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. 2 And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. 3 But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints. 4 Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving. 5 For you may be sure of this, that everyone who is sexually immoral or impure, or who is covetous (that is, an idolater), has no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God. 6 Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. 7 Therefore do not become partners with them; 8 for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light 9 (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), 10 and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. 11 Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. 12 For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. 13 But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, 14 for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, "Awake, O sleeper and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

15 Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, 16 making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. 17 Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. 18 And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, 19 addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart, 20 giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, 21 submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.

[Ephesians 5:22-33](#)

22 Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. 23 For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. 24 Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands. 25 Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, 26 that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, 27 so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. 28 In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. 29 For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church, 30 because we are members of his body. 31 “Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.” 32 This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church. 33 However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.

[Ephesians 6:1-4](#)

1 Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. 2 “Honor your father and mother” (this is the first commandment with a promise), 3 “that it may go well with you and that you may live long in the land.” 4 Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

[Philippians 4:8-9 \(NASB\)](#)

⁸ Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, dwell on these things. ⁹ The things you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

Strong's Concordance

areté: moral goodness, i.e. virtue

Strong's Number: [G703](#) (added)

Original Word: ἀρετή, ἡς, ἡ

Part of Speech: Noun, Feminine

Transliteration: areté

Phonetic Spelling: (ar-et'-ay)

Definition: moral goodness, virtue

Usage: goodness, a gracious act, virtue, uprightness.

HELPS Word-studies

703 *arētē* – properly, *virtue* ("moral excellence") which is *displayed* to enrich life.

[Colossians 3:18-25](#)

18 Wives, submit to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. 19 Husbands, love your wives, and do not be harsh with them. 20 Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord. 21 Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged. 22 Bondservants, obey in everything those who are your earthly masters, not by way of eye-service, as people-pleasers, but with sincerity of heart, fearing the Lord. 23 Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, 24 knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ. 25 For the wrongdoer will be paid back for the wrong he has done, and there is no partiality.

[1 Timothy 2:1-5 KJV](#)

¹ I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; ² For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. ³ For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; ⁴ Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth. ⁵ For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus,

Strong's Concordance

deésis: a need, entreaty

Strong's Number [G1162](#) (added)

Original Word: δέησις, εως, ἡ

Part of Speech: Noun, Feminine

Transliteration: deésis

Phonetic Spelling: (deh'-ay-sis)

Definition: a need, entreaty

Usage: supplication, prayer, entreaty.

HELPS Word-studies

Cognate: [1162](#) *deésis* (*deō*, "to be *in want, lack*"; see the cognate [1189](#) /*déomai*, "praying for a *specific, felt need*") – heart-*felt* petition, arising out of deep personal need (sense of lack, want).

[1 Timothy 6:1-10](#)

¹ Let all who are under a yoke as bondservants regard their own masters as worthy of all honor, so that the name of God and the teaching may not be reviled. ² Those who have believing masters must not be disrespectful on the ground that they are brothers; rather they must serve all the better since those who benefit by their good service are believers and beloved. Teach and urge these things.

³ If anyone teaches a different doctrine and does not agree with the sound words of our Lord Jesus Christ and the teaching that accords with godliness, ⁴ he is puffed up with conceit and understands nothing. He has an unhealthy craving for controversy and for quarrels about words, which produce envy, dissension, slander, evil suspicions, ⁵ and constant friction among people who are depraved in mind and deprived of the truth, imagining that godliness is a means of gain. ⁶ But godliness with contentment is great gain, ⁷ for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. ⁸ But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content. ⁹ But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. ¹⁰ For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs.

[1 Timothy 6:17-21 NKJV](#)

17 Command those who are rich in this present age not to be haughty, nor to trust in uncertain riches but in the living God, who gives us richly all things to enjoy. 18 Let them do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to give, willing to share, 19 storing up for themselves a good foundation for the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life. 21 O Timothy! Guard what was committed to your trust, avoiding the profane and idle babblings and contradictions of what is falsely called knowledge—21 by professing it some have strayed concerning the faith. Grace be with you. Amen.

[Hebrews 12:3-29](#)

³ Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted. ⁴ In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. ⁵ And have you forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons? “My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor be weary when reproved by him. ⁶ For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives.” ⁷ It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline? ⁸ If you are left without discipline, in which all have participated, then you are illegitimate children and not sons. ⁹ Besides this, we have had earthly fathers who disciplined us and we respected them. Shall we not much more be subject to the Father of spirits and live? ¹⁰ For they disciplined us for a short time as it seemed best to them, but he disciplines us for our good, that we may share his holiness. ¹¹ For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it. ¹² Therefore lift your drooping hands and strengthen your weak knees, ¹³ and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be put out of joint but rather be healed. ¹⁴ Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord. ¹⁵ See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of God; that no “root of bitterness” springs up and causes trouble, and by it many become defiled; ¹⁶ that no one is sexually immoral or unholy like Esau, who sold his birthright for a single meal. ¹⁷ For you know that afterward, when he desired to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no chance to repent, though he sought it with tears. ¹⁸ For you have not come to what may be touched, a blazing fire and darkness and gloom and a tempest ¹⁹ and the sound of a trumpet and a voice whose words made the hearers

beg that no further messages be spoken to them. ²⁰ For they could not endure the order that was given, “If even a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned.” ²¹ Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, “I tremble with fear.” ²² But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, ²³ and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, ²⁴ and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel. ²⁵ See that you do not refuse him who is speaking. For if they did not escape when they refused him who warned them on earth, much less will we escape if we reject him who warns from heaven. ²⁶ At that time his voice shook the earth, but now he has promised, “Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heavens.” ²⁷ This phrase, “Yet once more,” indicates the removal of things that are shaken—that is, things that have been made—in order that the things that cannot be shaken may remain. ²⁸ Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe, ²⁹ for our God is a consuming fire.

Sacrifices Pleasing to God

Strong's Concordance

mastigoó: to scourge

Strong's Number: [G3146](#) (added)

English: chastises (added)

Original Word: μαστιγόω

Part of Speech: Verb

Transliteration: mastigoó

Phonetic Spelling: (mas-tig-o'-o)

Definition: to scourge

Usage: I flog, scourge, the victim being strapped to a pole or frame; met: I chastise.

HELPS Word-studies

[3146](#) *mastigōō* – properly, to whip (scourge) with a *mastigos* (see [3148](#) /*mástiks*, a "whip"); to "flog (scourge) a victim, strapped to a pole or frame" (Souter); (figuratively) God sending severe pain in the best *eternal interests* of the believer (see [Hebrews 12:6](#))

Reflection: As in the Lord's dealing with Job, *God's purifying love is all-wise* when we experience temporal suffering. Hence, it always works for our *greater eternal gain* as we live in faith (Ro 8:18-25,38). For example, God authorized an incredible amount of earthly pain (bringing *heavenly gain*) in the lives of Jeremiah and John the Baptist.

[1 Peter 2:1-10](#)

1 So put away all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander. 2 Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation— 3 if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. 4 As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious,

5 you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. 6 For it stands in Scripture: “Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.” 7 So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, “The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,”⁸ and “A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense.” They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. 9 But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. 10 Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

[2 Peter 1:3-11](#)

3 His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence, 4 by which he has granted to us his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire. 5 For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge, 6 and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness, 7 and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love. 8 For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they keep you from being ineffective or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 For whoever lacks these qualities is so nearsighted that he is blind, having forgotten that he was cleansed from his former sins. 10 Therefore, brothers, be all the more diligent to confirm your calling and election, for if you practice these qualities you will never fall. 11 For in this way there will be richly provided for you an entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Strong's Concordance

philadelphia: the love of brothers, brotherly love

Strong's Number: [G5360](#) (added)

English: brotherly affection (added)

Original Word: φιλαδελφία, ας, ἡ

Part of Speech: Noun, Feminine

Transliteration: philadelphia

Phonetic Spelling: (fil-ad-el-fee'-ah)

Definition: the love of brothers, brotherly love

Usage: brotherly love, love of Christian brethren.

HELPS Word-studies

[5360](#) philadelphía (from [5384](#) /phílos, "loving friend" and [80](#) /adelphós, "a brother") – properly, affection for the brethren (fellow-believers).

Strong's Concordance

agapé: love, goodwill

Strong's Number: [G26](#) (added)

Original Word: ἀγάπη, ης, ἡ

Part of Speech: Noun, Feminine

Transliteration: agapé

Phonetic Spelling: (ag-ah'-pay)

Definition: love, goodwill

Usage: love, benevolence, good will, esteem; plur: love-feasts.

HELPS Word-studies

[26](#) *agápē* – properly, *love* which centers in moral *preference*. So too in secular ancient Greek, [26](#) (*agápē*) focuses on *preference*; likewise the verb form ([25](#) /*agapáō*) in antiquity meant "to prefer" (*TDNT*, 7). In the NT, [26](#) (*agápē*) typically refers to *divine love* (= what *God prefers*).

[1 John 1:1-10](#)

1 That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— 2 the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us— 3 that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. 4 And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete. 5 This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. 6 If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. 7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. 8 If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 10 If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

[1 John 3:11-24](#)

11 For this is the message that you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another. 12 We should not be like Cain, who was of the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his own deeds were evil and his brother's righteous. 13 Do not be surprised, brothers, that the world hates you. 14 We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brothers. Whoever does not love abides in death. 15 Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him. 16 By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. 17 But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? 18 Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth. 19 By this we shall know that we are of the truth and reassure our heart before him; 20 for whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and he knows everything.

21 Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God; 22 and whatever we ask we receive from him, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him. 23 And this is his commandment, that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. 24 Whoever keeps his commandments abides in God, and God in him. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit whom he has given us.

[1 John 4:1-6](#)

1 Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. 2 By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, 3 and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already. 4 Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. 5 They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world, and the world listens to them. 6 We are from God. Whoever knows God listens to us; whoever is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

[3 John 1:2 \(NASB\)](#)

2 Beloved, I pray that in all respects you may prosper and be in good health, just as your soul prospers.

[Revelation 1:6](#)

6 and He has made us to be a kingdom, priests to His God and Father—to Him be the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Conclusion

There are many things for us to learn to understand as we seek to grow closer to God the Father, Jesus our Lord and Saviour, and the Holy Spirit.

To be the children of God, we need to be the salt of the earth and the light of our Lord Christ Jesus carrying the message of the Gospel pointing to Lord Jesus Christ through our words and deeds in truth and in love as our Lord Jesus Christ has told us ([Matthew 5:13-16](#)).

In [Philippians 3:13-18 NASB](#) the Apostle Paul tells us to forget the past and strive forward for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus to let go of the past good and bad and continue to strive forward for the reward of spiritual perfection in Christ. To follow their examples and to finish the race that is set before us to receive prize of the crown of life.

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