

Do You Love Me More than These?

Text: John 21:15-17

Introduction:

- A. Tell the story of the mother with two sons: one professed his love with words and flowers; the other demonstrated his love by obedience and helpfulness. Who really loved his mother?
- B. We must love Christ.- 1 Corinthians 16:22 (phileo); James 1:12 (agapao); 1 Corinthians 13:13
- C. Do we really love Christ?

I. analysis of text

A. background

- 1. Peter had boasted of superior love.- Matthew 26:31-35
- 2. He had even tried to prove his love was greater.- John 13:6-9; 18:10; 21:1-8 (3 displays)
- 3. But Peter had denied the Lord three times.- Matthew 26:69-75

B. the text (Read from **NIV**)

- 1. three addresses: “Simon, son of Jonah”(not the honorable name Jesus had given him - John 1:42)
- 2. three questions
 - a. “do you love (agapao) Me more than these?”(“agapao”: “active good will”)
 - b. “do you love (agapao) Me?”
 - c. “do you love (phileo) Me?”
- 3. three answers:
 - a. “Yes, Lord; You know that I love (phileo) You.”
 - b. “Yes, Lord; You know that I love (phileo) You.”
 - c. “Lord, You know all things; You know that I love (phileo) You.”
- 4. three commands
 - a. “Feed My lambs.”
 - b. “Tend My sheep.”
 - c. “Feed My sheep.”
 - d. The three repetitions indicated Jesus had forgiven Peter.
 - e. But they also were to teach Peter that the proof of love for Christ is obedience and service, not brag and show.- John 14:15

II. Do we love Christ as we should?

- A. We must love him more than we love family.- Matthew 10:34-37
- B. We must love him more than recreation.- 2 Timothy 3:4
- C. We must love him more than money.- Mark 10:17-25
- D. We must love him more than life.- Luke 14:26

Conclusion:

- A. If we would be saved, we must love the Lord above all else. - Luke 14:33
- B. Do we love the Lord as we should?