



God's Love In
John



“For God So Loved ...”

“Love” in the NT • 320x, 263vs

- Romans - 24
- Ephesians - 22
- 1 Corinthians - 20
- Luke - 16
- 2 Corinthians - 15
- Matthew - 12
- 1 John - 52 • John - **44** • 3 John - 6 • Revelation - 6 • 2 John - 4 = **112, 35%**



“For God So Loved ...”

“Love” in the NT

- Defines **who** God is • **what** God does
 - God **is** love - 1 Jn 4.8 • God **loves** the world - Jn 3.16
- Defines **who** we are • **what** we do
 - We are **loved** by God • We **love** one another - 1 Jn 4.11



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“Love” in the NT

- **verb/love-loved** - 143 • **noun/love** - 116 • **noun/beloved** - 61
- used **negatively**
 - Pharisees **loved** the best seats in the synagogue - Lk 11.43
 - Pharisees **loved** the praise of men - Jn 12.43
 - Mankind **loves** darkness - Jn 3.19
 - Demas **loved** the world - 2 Tim 4.10
 - We are cautioned **not to love** the world - 1 Jn 2.15



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“Love” in the NT

- **verb/love-loved** - 143 • **noun/love** - 116 • **noun/beloved** - 61
- used **positively**
 - “the NT **never** uses the noun ἀγάπη in negative contexts” (NIDNTTE, 1.108)
 - “the love of God” = “God’s love **for us**” • subjective
 - “the love of God” = “our love **for God**” • objective
 - includes/demands our love **for each other**
 - includes/demands our love **for all ... even our enemies**



“For God So Loved ...”

How love in John moves from ...

- God **loves** the world
- Man **loves** the world
- The Father **loves** the Son
- The Son **loves** the Father
- Man **loves** the Father and the Son
- Jesus **loves** mankind -> Jesus **loves me**
- Jesus taught the disciples to **love**
- The Father **loves** me ... you ... all souls



“For God So Loved ...”

How love in John moves¹ ...

- God **loved/loves** the world
 - "For God so **loved** the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." **3:16**
 - God's love **reaches out**
 - God's love **draws in**
- See
 - Rom 5.8 • Eph 2.4 • 2 Th 2.16 • 1 Jn 3.1 • 1 Jn 4.9 • 1 Jn 4.10



“For God So Loved ...”

How love in John moves² ...

- Man **loved/loves** the world
 - 3.19 - for darkness
 - 12.25* - for our own life
 - 12.43 - for the praise of men
 - 15.19* - you are **not loved** by the world because you are **not** of the world



“For God So Loved ...”

How love in John moves³ ...

- The Father **loved/loves** the Son
 - 3.35 - the Father **loves** the Son and gave all things into his hand
 - 5.20* - the Father **loves** the Son and gave all things into his hand
 - 10.17 - the Father **loves** the Son because he was willing to give his life
 - 15.9 - the Father **loved** me (the Son)
 - 17.24 - the Father **loved** the Son before the foundation of the world
 - 17.26 - the Father **loved** the Son



“For God So Loved ...”

How love in John moves⁴ ...

- The Son **loved/loves** the Father
 - 14.31 - that the world may know that Christ **loved** the Father ...
 - 17.24 - the Son **loved** the Father before the foundation of the world (implicit)
 - 17.26 - the Son **loved** the Father (implicit)



“For God So Loved ...”

How love in John moves^{5a} ...

- Man **loved/loves** the Father and the Son
 - **Negative**
 - 5.42 - does **not** exist (the love of God is not in you)
 - 8.42 - does **not** exist (if you were of your Father, i.e. God, you would love me)
 - **Positive**
 - 14.15 - **if we love Christ**, we will keep his commandments
 - 14.21 - **having/keeping** Christ's commandments ...
 - shows **love** for Christ
 - those who do so are **loved** by the Father • and thus **loved** by Christ



“For God So Loved ...”

How love in John moves^{5b} ...

- Man **loved/loves** the Father and the Son
 - **Negative**
 - 14.24 - those who **do not love** Christ **do not keep** his words
 - the words are **not only** Christ's • they are **God's words**
 - **Positive**
 - 14.23 - **if we love Christ**, he will **keep** his words
 - and the Father will **love** him/**come** to him • the Son will **abide** with him
 - 14.28 - **if** the apostles **loved** Christ -> **rejoice** that he **returned** to the Father
 - 16.27* - you have loved me (2x)



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How love in John moves^{6a} ...

- Jesus **loved/loves** mankind • Jesus **loves me**
 - 11.3*, 36* - for Lazarus
 - 11.5 - for Martha, Mary and Lazarus
 - 13.1 - for his own, disciples/apostles, to the end (2x)
 - 13.23, 19.26. 20.2*, 21.7 - disciple whom Jesus loved
 - 15.9 - **as** the Father **loved** Christ, so Christ **loved** the apostles, therefore keep my commandments



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How love in John moves^{6b} ...

- Jesus **loved/loves** mankind • Jesus **loves me**
 - 15.13 - no greater **love** than to lay down your life for one's friends
 - 17.26 - the Son's **love** may be in the disciple's
 - 21.15*, 16*, 17* - Jesus questioned Peter about his love for the Christ



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How love in John moves^{7a} ...

- Jesus taught the disciples to **love one another ...**
 - 13.34 - **love** one another, **as I have loved you, love** one another
 - 13.35 - world will recognize you as my disciples **if you love** one another
 - 15.9 - **continue** in my, Christ's, love
 - 15.10 - if you keep my commandments, you/apostles, **abide** in my/Christ's love
 - 15.12 - **love** one another, **as I loved you**



“For God So Loved ...”

How love in John moves^{7b} ...

- Jesus taught the disciples to **love one another** ...
 - 15.13 - no greater **love** than to lay down life for one's friends
 - 15.17 - we are **commanded to love** one another
 - 17.26 - the **love** of God & Christ in them teaches/compels the disciples **to love**
 - 21.15*, 16*, 17* - Peter affirmed his **love*** for the Christ



“For God So Loved ...”

How love in John moves⁸ ...

- God the Father **loves** you/me/all
 - 14.21 - God **loves** you because you **love** me and **keep** my commandments
 - 16.27* (2x) - God **loves** you because you **loved** me & **believed** I came from God
 - 17.23 - God **loves** you **as** he **loves** me
 - 17.26 - the Father's **love** may be **in** the disciples
 - 3.16 - God's **love** for all



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How much does God and Christ love me?

- God **loves** Christ
- Christ **loves** God
- God **loves** those who **love** Christ
- Christ **loves** disciples **as God loved** Him
- God **loves** disciples **as he loved** Christ
- God **loves** all Christians **as he loved** disciples
- God **loves** all souls **as he loved** Christ



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Infinite love can not be diminished!

