



# Agape

A Revelation of the Father's  
Character of Love

## Study Guide Chapters 1-4

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# Agape

## CHAPTER 1

Revelation of the Father

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### OBJECTIVE

Understand the breadth of Divine Love

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### CHARACTERS

God, Jesus, Moses, Satan, Adam

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### SUMMARY

- The life of Jesus is in stark contrast to what men understood God to be like
  - The prevailing view is that God is harsh
  - The character of Christ glorified God
  - Supreme revelation of Love is at the Cross
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## KEY VERSES

No man hath seen God at any time; **the only begotten Son**, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him. John 1:18

Ye are of your father **the devil**, and the **lusts** of your father ye will do. He was a **murderer from the beginning**, and abode not in the truth, because there is **no truth in him**. When he speaketh a lie, **he speaketh of his own**: for he is a liar, and the father of it. John 8:44

And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent. (4) **I have glorified thee on the earth**: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do. (5) And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was. (6) **I have manifested thy name unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world**: thine they were, and thou gavest them me; and they have kept thy word. John 17:3-6

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## QUESTIONS

1. What did Adam understand "death" to be?

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2. List the acts of Jesus in His ministry and at the cross:

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3. What was the potential risk to the Father, in giving His Son to us?

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## CHAPTER 2

How Do You Read?

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### OBJECTIVE

Principles on how to read the Word of God

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### CHARACTERS

Jesus, Elijah, The Disciples, Natural Man,  
William Miller

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### SUMMARY

- Apparent contradictions in scripture
  - How to read the Bible
  - Allow scripture to interpret itself
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### KEY VERSES

He said unto him, What is written in the law?  
**how readest thou?** Luke 10:26

Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood,  
hath eternal life; and **I will raise him** up at the  
last day. John 6:54

But the **natural man receiveth not** the things of  
the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto  
him: neither can he know them, because they  
are spiritually discerned. 1 Corinthians 2:14

**He that answereth a matter before** he heareth  
it, it is folly and shame unto him. Proverbs  
18:13

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### QUESTIONS

1. Why do people tend to reject God and the  
Bible?

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2. To understand the Bible, what principles  
should we use?

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3. Why does it matter, how we read the Bible?

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4. Why do we need to take all scripture  
together, before forming a conclusion?

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## CHAPTER 3

The Death of the Cross

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### OBJECTIVE

Gain insights of the Cross

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### CHARACTERS

Jesus, Moses, Isaiah, Adam, Cain,  
Prodigal Son, Satan, Humanity

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### SUMMARY

- Requirement of the cross
  - Nature of the death
  - Unmasking Satan's lie
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## KEY VERSES

(3) **He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not. (4) Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. (5) But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.** Isaiah 53:3-5

And Cain said to the Lord, **My wickedness is more than that I deserve forgiveness** (for); Genesis 4:13 (Wycliffe Translation, See also Luther 1912 Translation)

Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through **death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil;** Hebrews 2:14

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## QUESTIONS

1. Whom required death at the cross?

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2. Why is it difficult for humanity to repent and ask for forgiveness?

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3. What gives Satan the power of death?

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4. Describe type of death Christ suffered.

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## CHAPTER 4

My Beloved Son

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### OBJECTIVE

Examine the relationship between the Father and Son

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### CHARACTERS

Father, Christ, Mary Magdalene

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### SUMMARY

- Father's expression of divine love
  - Glimpse into sufferings of Christ
  - Christ's expression of divine love
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### KEY VERSES

And lo there came a voice from heaven saying: this is that **my dear son, in whom is my delight.**

Matthew 3:17 (Tyndale)

For God so loved the world, that **he gave his only begotten Son**, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

John 3:16

... God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has **committed to us the word of reconciliation.**

2 Corinthians 5:19 (NKJV)

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### QUESTIONS

1. What is a son's relationship to His Father? And what is a Father's relationship to his son?

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2. Does Jesus inherit something from His Father, or does He already have everything in himself and needs nothing from His Father? What is the difference?

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3. What can we learn about how to be sons of God by beholding the Son of God and His sufferings?

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4. What did Mary Magdalene believe?

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