

CAMWS Sixth Paper Session

Section C: Christianity, 10:10 – 11:25 a.m.

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Handout for “The Negative Use of the Concept of *Agape*-Love in the New Testament”

The 6 Negative Instances

(All translations are my own; the Greek text is from *The Greek New Testament*, 5th, Revised Edition, Deutsche Bibelgesellschaft - <https://www.academic-bible.com/en/online-bibles/greek-new-testament-ubs5/read-the-bible-text/bibel/text/>)

1) **Luke 11:43**

"Woe to you, Pharisees, because you **love** (*agapate*) **the place of honor in the synagogues and the greetings in the marketplaces.**"

οὐαὶ ὑμῖν τοῖς Φαρισαίοις, ὅτι ἀγαπᾶτε τὴν πρωτοκαθεδρίαν ἐν ταῖς συναγωγαῖς καὶ τοὺς ἀσπασμοὺς ἐν ταῖς ἀγοραῖς.

2) **John 12:42-43**

"Nevertheless, however, also from the rulers many believed in Him (*episteusan eis auton*), but on account of the Pharisees, they were not confessing so that they might not be excommunicated from the synagogue. For they **agape-loved** (*ēgapēsan*) **the praise of people** more than the praise of God."

ὁμως μέντοι καὶ ἐκ τῶν ἀρχόντων πολλοὶ ἐπίστευσαν εἰς αὐτόν, ἀλλὰ διὰ τοὺς Φαρισαίους οὐχ ὡμολόγουν ἵνα μὴ ἀποσυνάγωγοι γένωνται ἠγάπησαν γὰρ τὴν δόξαν τῶν ἀνθρώπων μᾶλλον ἢπερ τὴν δόξαν τοῦ θεοῦ.

3) **2 Timothy 4:9b-10a**

"For Demas abandoned me, **having agape-loved** (*agapēsas*) **the present age** (*ton nun aiōna*), and he went into Thessalonica."

Δημᾶς γὰρ με ἐγκατέλιπεν ἀγαπήσας τὸν νῦν αἰῶνα : καὶ ἐπορεύθη εἰς Θεσσαλονίκην, .

Contd.

4) **1 John 2:15-17**

"Do not **agape-love** (*agapate*) the world or the things in the world. **If someone agape-loves** (*agapai*) **the world** (*ton kosmon*), **the agape-love** (*agape*) **of the Father is not in him**; because everything in the world, the desire of the flesh and the desire of the eyes and the bragging of life is not from the Father, but from the world. And the world passes away and its desire, but the one doing the will of God remains forever."

Μὴ ἀγαπᾶτε τὸν κόσμον μηδὲ τὰ ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ. ἐάν τις ἀγαπᾷ τὸν κόσμον, οὐκ ἔστιν ἡ ἀγάπη τοῦ πατρὸς ἐν αὐτῷ (2:15)

5) **John 3:19**

"And this is the judgment that the light has come into the world, but the people **agape-loved** (*ēgapēsan*) **the darkness** more than the light; for their deeds were evil."

αὕτη δὲ ἐστὶν ἡ κρίσις ὅτι τὸ φῶς ἐλήλυθεν εἰς τὸν κόσμον καὶ ἠγάπησαν οἱ ἄνθρωποι μᾶλλον τὸ σκότος ἢ τὸ φῶς· ἦν γὰρ αὐτῶν πονηρὰ τὰ ἔργα.

6) **2 Peter 2:15**

"Having left behind the straight road, they wandered off, having followed the road of Balaam, son of Bezer, **who agape-loved** (*ēgapēsen*) **wages of unrighteousness** (*hos misthon adikias ēgapēsen*, 2b)."

καταλιπόντες εὐθεΐαν ὁδὸν ἐπλανήθησαν ἐξακολουθήσαντες τῇ ὁδῷ τοῦ Βαλαάμ τοῦ Βοσόρ ὃς μισθὸν ἀδικίας ἠγάπησεν,