

IN THE LIGHT

THE EPISTLES OF JOHN

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES

1 John 4:7-21
Luke 6:32-36

He First Loved Us

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- There are 3 Greek words that translate into the English word "love".
- First is "Eros" which is the sexual type of love.
- Second is "Philia" which means a brotherly type of love.
- The primary word for love throughout the New Testament is "Agape" which means a sacrificial type of love towards someone else.
- Agape is the primary form of love in the Bible.
- God is the author and originator of this kind of sacrificial posture towards others.
- The very essence of God is sacrificial love.
- In 1 John 4:9 John writes that God loved us first. We respond to His act of love.
- 1 John 4:11 says we ought to respond to God's love "...we also ought to love one another."
- You need God to share His heart with you to love like this.
- Agape love does not have conditions.
- In Luke 6 Jesus is very clear that it is not enough to love people whom you like. You are to love people you don't like.