

John 14:7-15

Verses 7-8 To know the Son is to know the Father as He was sent to explain the Father and He is the only way to the Father (John 14:6). Although the disciples had walked with Jesus for over 3 years, they still lacked understanding of Jesus in certain areas. In John's account of the gospel Phillip is first mentioned in John 1:43-46 as he comes to follow Jesus. From that time, Phillip along with the other disciples had seen many amazing and miraculous things from Jesus. Phillip is mentioned in the miracle of feeding the multitude in John 6 as it is Phillip who puts to the test by asking "where are we to buy bread, so that these may eat?" (John 6:5). However, Phillip asks for one more thing. He asks to see the Father and states that will be enough. This statement from Phillip shows that He does not fully understand that the Father is revealed in the One in whose presence they are in: the Son of God.

Verse 9 Jesus is the image of the invisible God. In the incarnation, Jesus made the invisible God visible.

- **Colossians 1:15** He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.
- **Hebrews 1:3** And He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature, and ^[b]upholds all things by the word of His power. When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,
- **John 1:18** No one has seen God at any time; the only begotten God who is in the bosom of the Father, He has explained *Him*.

Verse 10 There is unity between the Father and the Son within the triune Godhead.

- **John 10:26-33** But you do not believe because you are not of My sheep. ²⁷ My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me; ²⁸ and I give eternal life to them, and they will never perish; and no one will snatch them out of My hand. ²⁹ ^[a]My Father, who has given *them* to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch *them* out of the Father's hand. ³⁰ I and the Father are ^[b]one.³¹ The Jews picked up stones again to stone Him. ³² Jesus answered them, "I showed you many good works from the Father; for which of them are you stoning Me?" ³³ The Jews answered Him, "For a good work we do not stone You, but for blasphemy; and because You, being a man, make Yourself out *to be* God."
- **John 17:20-22** "I do not ask on behalf of these alone, but for those also who believe in Me through their word; ²¹ that they may all be one; even as You, Father, *are* in Me and I in You, that they also may be in Us, so that the world may ^[a]believe that You sent Me.

Jesus is speaking on behalf of the Father as the Father has set His seal upon Jesus (John 6:27) and has commanded Him what to speak.

- **John 7:16** So Jesus answered them and said, "My teaching is not Mine, but His who sent Me.
- **John 12:49-50** For I did not speak ^[a]on My own initiative, but the Father Himself who sent Me has given Me a commandment *as to* what to say and what to speak. ⁵⁰ I know that His commandment is eternal life; therefore the things I speak, I speak just as the Father has told Me."

Verse 11

The works Jesus does are a witness that He is from the Father. He encourages the disciples to look and remember the works that He had performed as proof He was from the Father.

- **John 5:36** But the testimony which I have is greater than *the testimony of* John; for the works which the Father has given Me to accomplish—the very works that I do—testify about Me, that the Father has sent Me.
- **John 10:37-38** If I do not do the works of My Father, do not believe Me; ³⁸ but if I do them, though you do not believe Me, believe the works, so that you may ^[a]know and understand that the Father is in Me, and I in the Father."

Verse 12

- The importance and urgency of this verse is indicated by it beginning with "truly, truly."
- This verse is used by charismatic circles to teach that all believers are to do more miraculous miracles than Jesus Himself.
- This verse does not mean that those who are believers are going to greater miracles than Jesus. No one has walked on water, calmed the sea with the command of their words, or brought a dead man out of the grave in 2,000 years.
- The clue to exegesis of this verse is found in the last 6 words of this verse "because I go to the Father."
- This verse is indicating that after He returns to the Father, the Holy Spirit will be sent and the spread of the gospel will be worldwide and not just limited to the areas mentioned in the Bible times.

- This is reference to reaching people in greater number and scope with the gospel, rather than physical miracles. This is possible by the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost after Jesus has returned to the Father.
 - **Acts 1:8** but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.”
 - **Revelation 5:9** And they *sang a new song, saying, “Worthy are You to take the [a]book and to break its seals; for You were slain, and purchased for God with Your blood *men* from every tribe and tongue and people and nation.

Verses 13-14

- This verse also is taken out of context and used in the prosperity gospel, new apostolic, charismatic, and the “name it and claim” circles.
- This verse is not teaching that whatever we pray in Jesus’ name we receive.
- We must look at other verses to gain more context.
 - **1 John 5:14** This is the confidence which we have [a]before Him, that, if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us.
 - **Matthew 6:10** ‘Your kingdom come. Your will be done, On earth as it is in heaven.
- When we pray in accordance with His will we receive what we pray for. The Holy Spirit intercedes in our prayers.
 - **Romans 8:26-28** In the same way the Spirit also helps our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for *us* with groanings too deep for words; ²⁷and He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He intercedes for the [a]saints according to *the will of God*.²⁸ And we know that [a]God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to *His* purpose.
- This verse is where we are instructed to pray in Jesus’ name which is the way we end most of our prayers. We pray in Jesus’ name because He is the mediator between God and man and it is through Him alone that we have access to the Father.
- The model that is shown in scripture of prayer is to pray to the Father, in the name of the Son, and by the guidance of the Holy Spirit. However, it is ok to pray to each person of the Trinity.

Verse 15

Who loves God? The only people that love God are those who have been regenerated. We are by nature enemies of God and hostile to God. Only in regeneration is the heart made to beat with affection for God for the first time. Not everyone loves God, but those who do love Him only love Him because He loved them first as was shown by electing them and predestining them before the foundation of the world. Those who He showed salvific love upon by choosing and predestining were predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son (**Romans 8:29**). This conformity to the image of the Son speaks to sanctification which is achieved by increased obedience to His commands. If there is no sanctification there is no regeneration. Those who love God will keep His commands and grown in holiness.

- **1 Corinthians 16:22** If anyone does not love the Lord, he is to be [a]accursed. [b]Maranatha(our Lord come).
- **John 8:42** Jesus said to them, “If God were your Father, you would love Me, for I proceeded forth and have come from God, for I have not even come on My own initiative, but [a]He sent Me.
- **1 John 4:10,19** In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son *to be* the propitiation for our sins. We love, because He first loved us.

To see Jesus is to see the Father as Jesus was exegeting the Father. The love of the Father was being explained by the Son as He was dying on the cross to redeem all that the Father had given Him and loved before the foundation of the world. All those who are regenerated will love God and this is because He loved them first and in regeneration caused their heart to beat with affection for Him for the first time. All those who He loved first and now love Him are predestined to be conformed to the image of the Son and will be obedient and keep His commandments. How can one know they have their name written in the Lamb’s book of Life? If someone has honest and sincere affection for the Biblical Jesus, they can know they are numbered among the elect because love for Christ does not come from an unregenerate heart! The Father loves us with the same love in which He loved His only begotten Son as a result of our adoption as sons. The Son loves the Father and we who share in union with His sonship will now love the Father. How is this possible? He loved us first!

