

Our Mission is Love

= John 13:34-35 =







**For those who
care, and I
understand if
you don't: Today
I quit being a
Christian. I'm out.**



**It's simply impos-
sible for me to
“belong” to this
quarrelsome,
hostile, disputa-
tious, and
deservedly
infamous group.**




**For ten years,
I tried. I've failed.
I'm an outsider.
My conscience will
allow nothing else.**

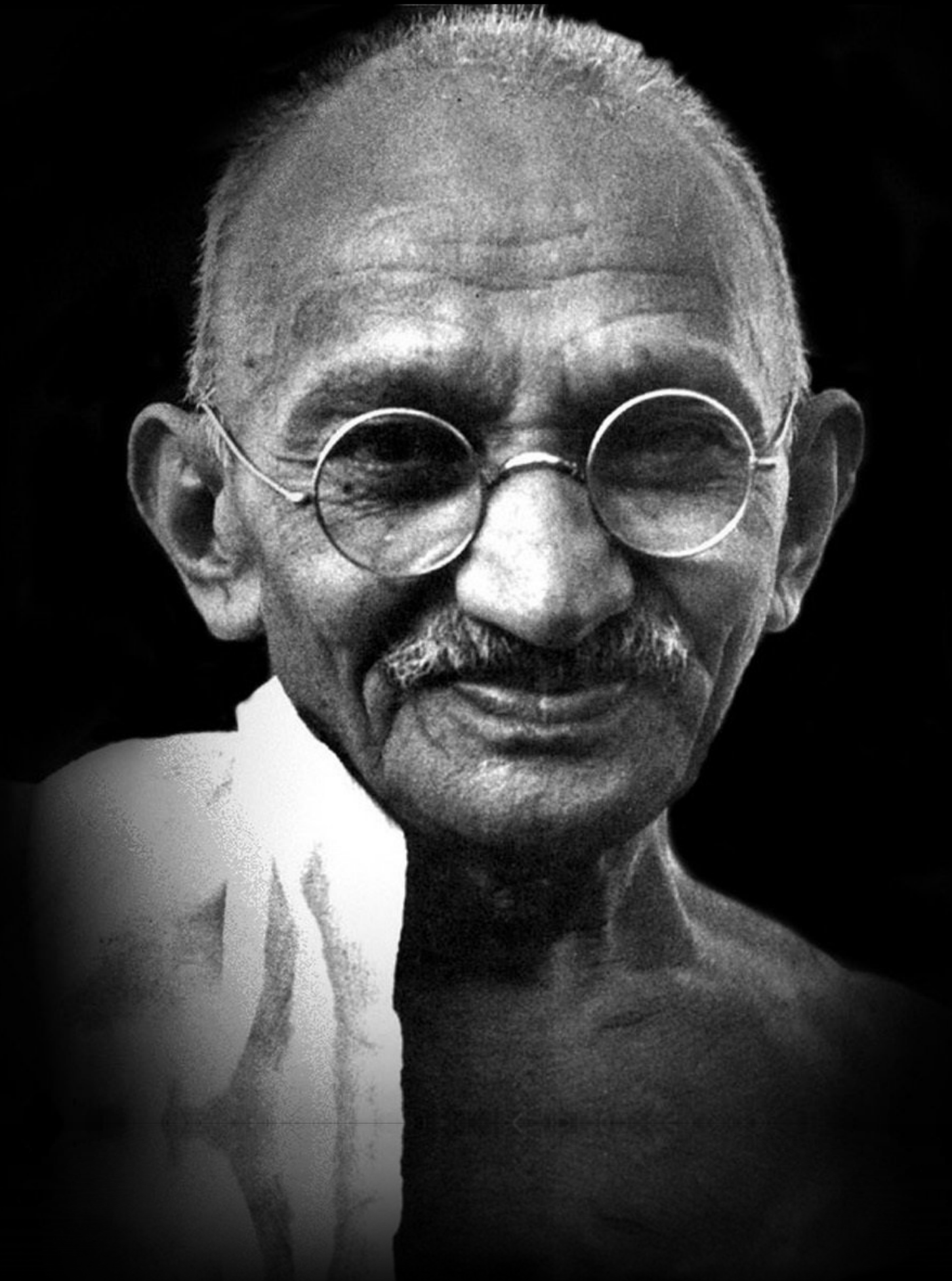


**I don't really like
disappointing all my
Christian friends and
contacts. I really
don't like it. It's pain-
ful. But I did what I
felt I had to do.**

— Anne Rice, Author —

A close-up photograph of a white ceramic cup filled with a latte, topped with a dusting of brown powder. The cup sits on a matching white saucer. The background is a dark, reflective surface, creating a subtle reflection of the cup and saucer. The lighting is soft, highlighting the texture of the coffee foam.

**What would
you want to
say to her?**



**I like your Christ,
but I don't like
your Christians.
Your Christians
are so unlike
your Christ.**

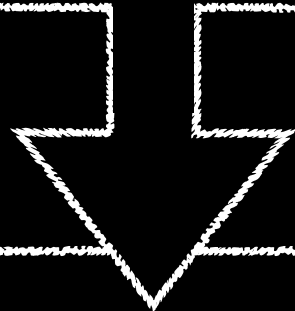
— Gandhi (1869-1948) —

What was
Jesus
known for





Gospel



Community

What would
it look like
if we were
DEVOTED
to one another



Our Mission is Love

= John 13:34-35 =



Back to the Basics

= John 13:34-35 =



If We Get Nothing

Else Right....

- John 13:34-35 -

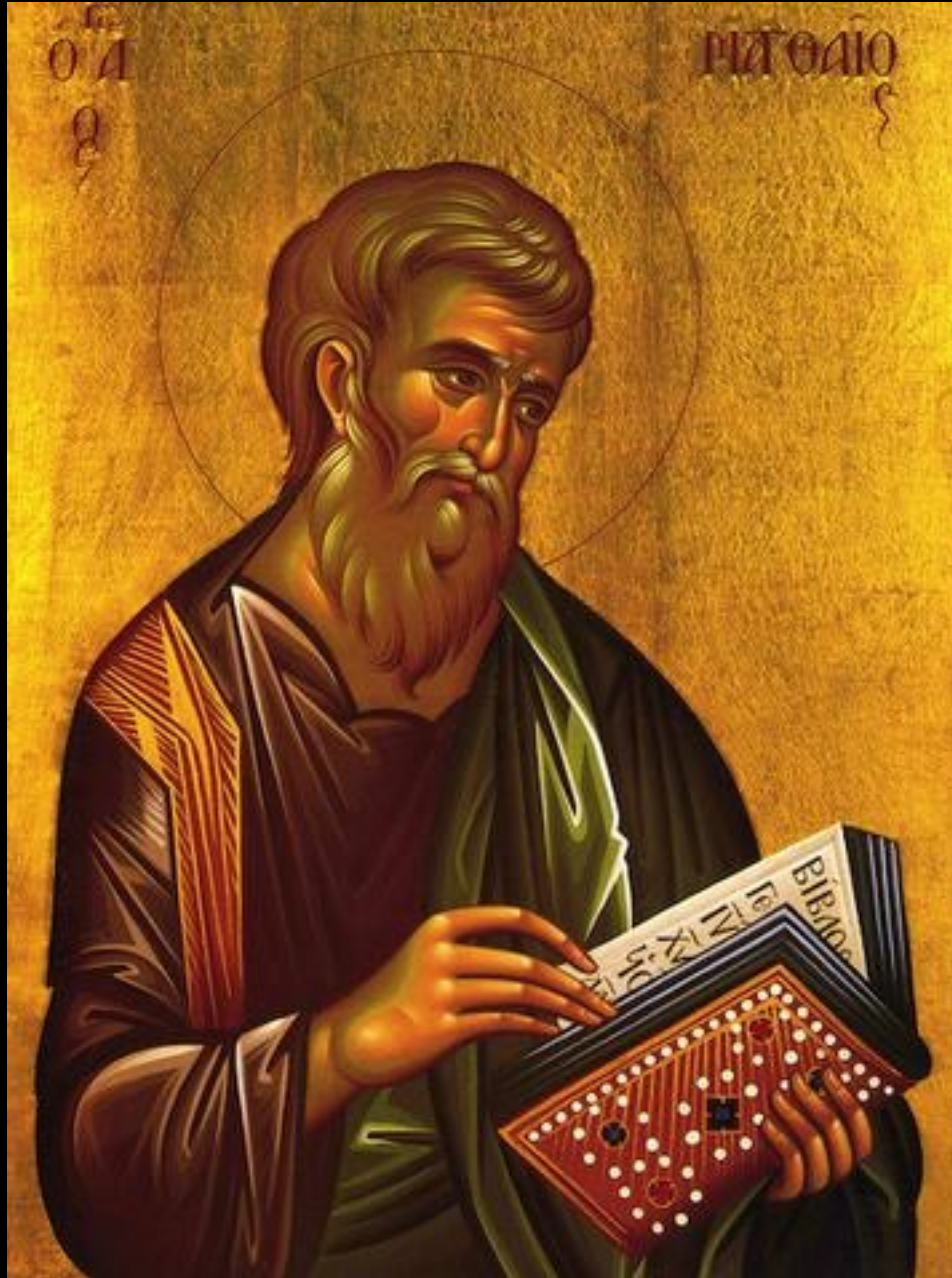


The Gospel of John 13:34-35 (ESV)

34 **A new commandment I give to you,**

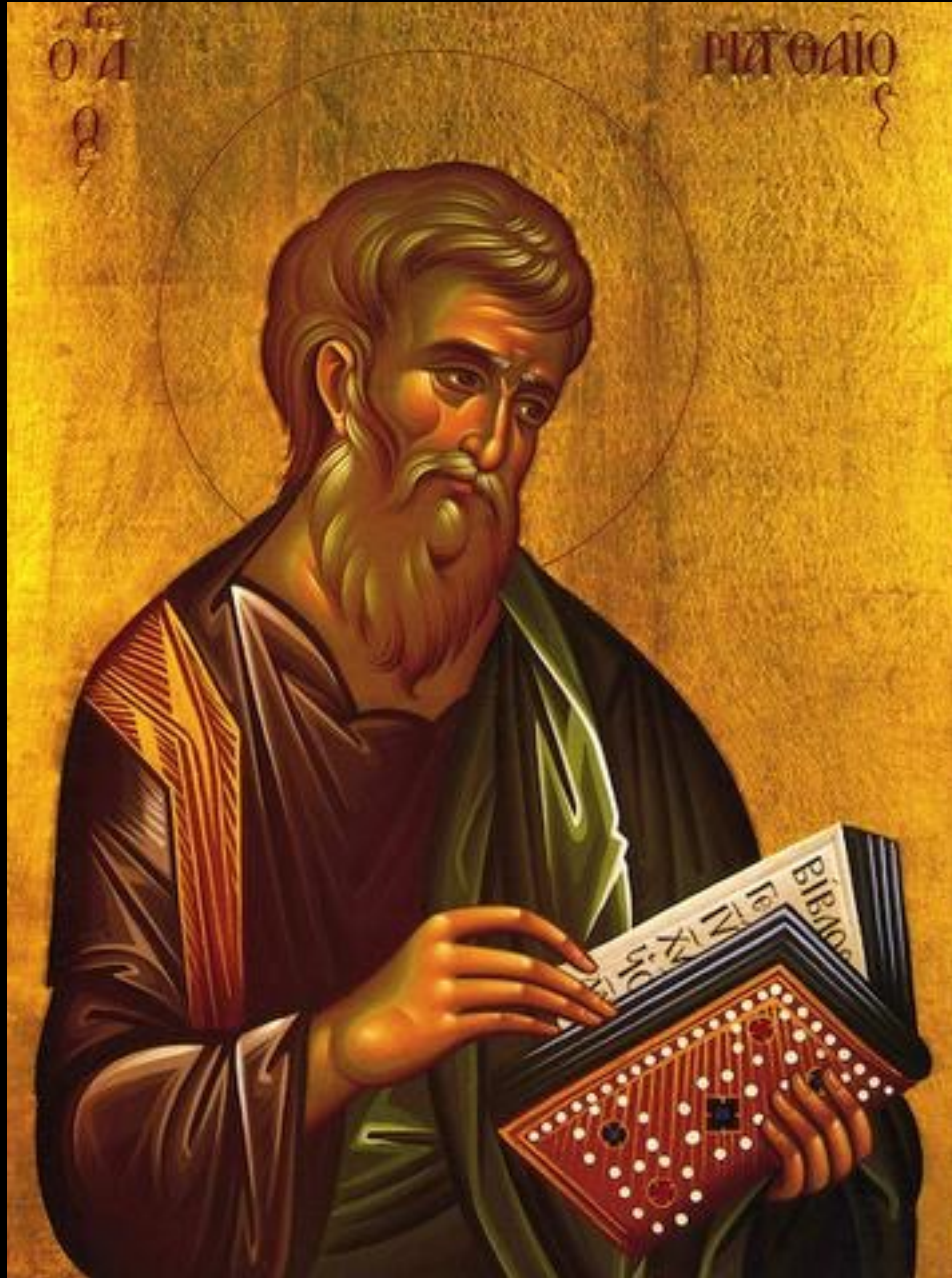
The Gospel of John 13:34-35 (ESV)

34 **A new commandment I give to you,
that you love one another....**



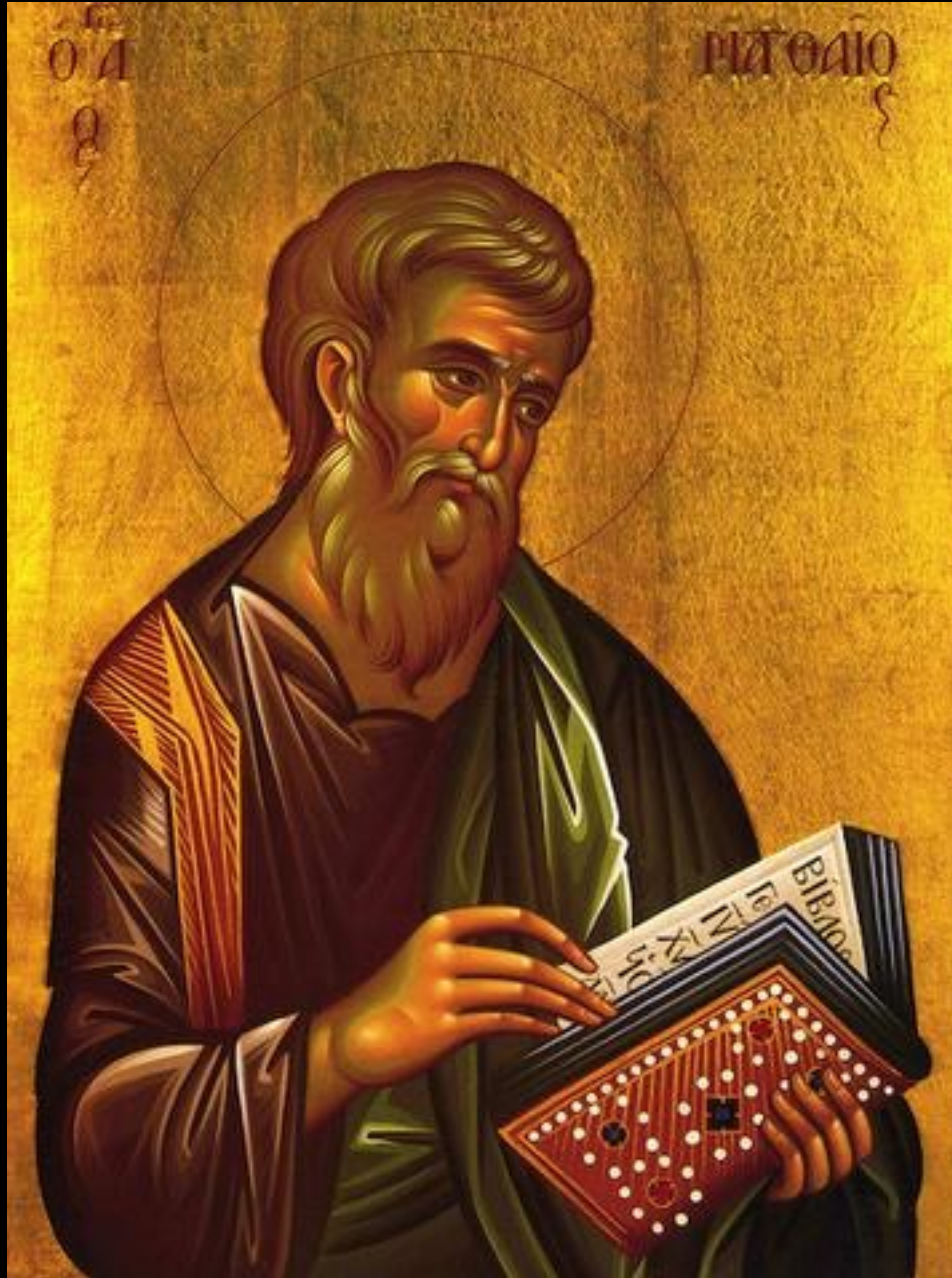
One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question: “Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?”

The Apostle Matthew
in the Gospel of Matthew 22:35-40



The Apostle Matthew
in the Gospel of Matthew 22:35-40

**Jesus replied:
“Love the Lord
your God with all
your heart and with
all your soul and
with all your mind.’
This is the first
and greatest
commandment.**



The Apostle Matthew
in the Gospel of Matthew 22:35-40

“And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”

The Gospel of John 13:34-35 (ESV)

34 **A new commandment I give to you,
that you love one another....**

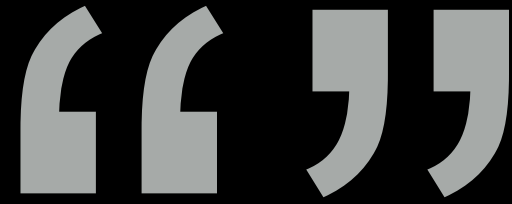
The Gospel of John 13:34-35 (ESV)

**34 A new commandment I give to you,
that you love one another: just as I
have loved you, you also are to love
one another.**

“

**Just as I have loved you,
you also are to love
one another.**

Jesus of Nazareth
Gospel of John 15:34



This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.

Jesus of Nazareth

The Gospel of John, 15:12-13

GEEKING OUT ON GREEK

Greek has 4 words for “**LOVE**”



A man with white hair and glasses, wearing a dark suit, white shirt, and patterned tie, is smiling and holding an open book. The background is a blurred library or study with bookshelves.

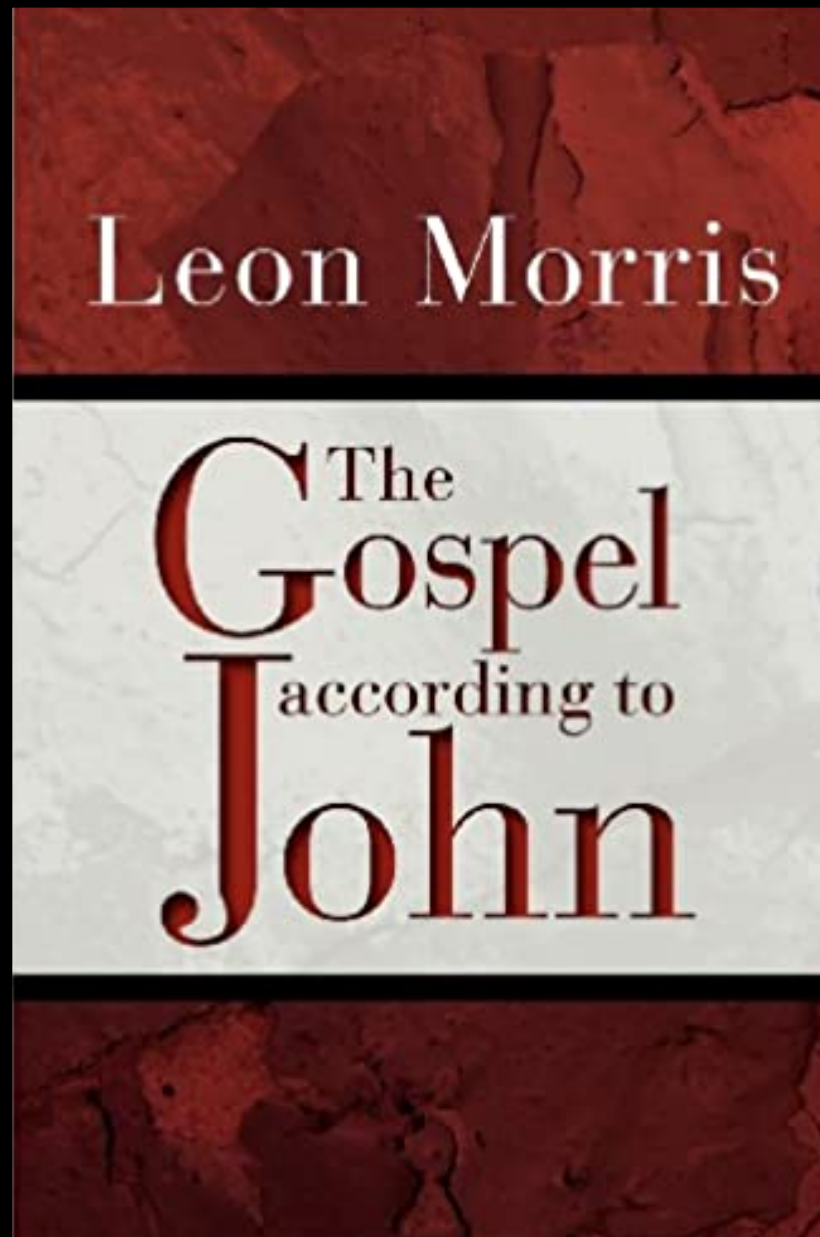
The Greek word **agape**
(love) seems to have
been virtually a
Christian invention—
a **new word** for
a **new thing**....

— JI Packer —
Your Father Loves You

**According to Jesus, this
agape-sacrificial-kind-of-love
is how He wants His disciples
to love one another and
to display His new way
of being human.**

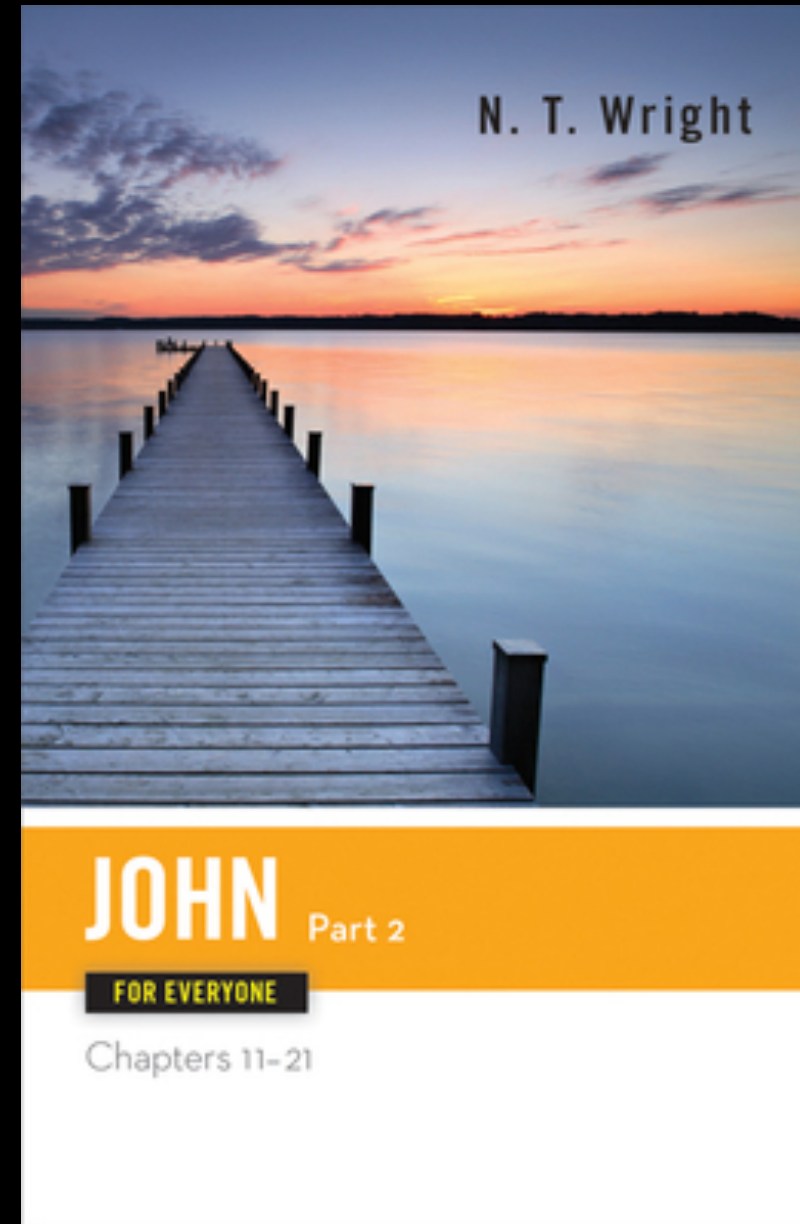
The Gospel of John 13:34-35 (ESV)

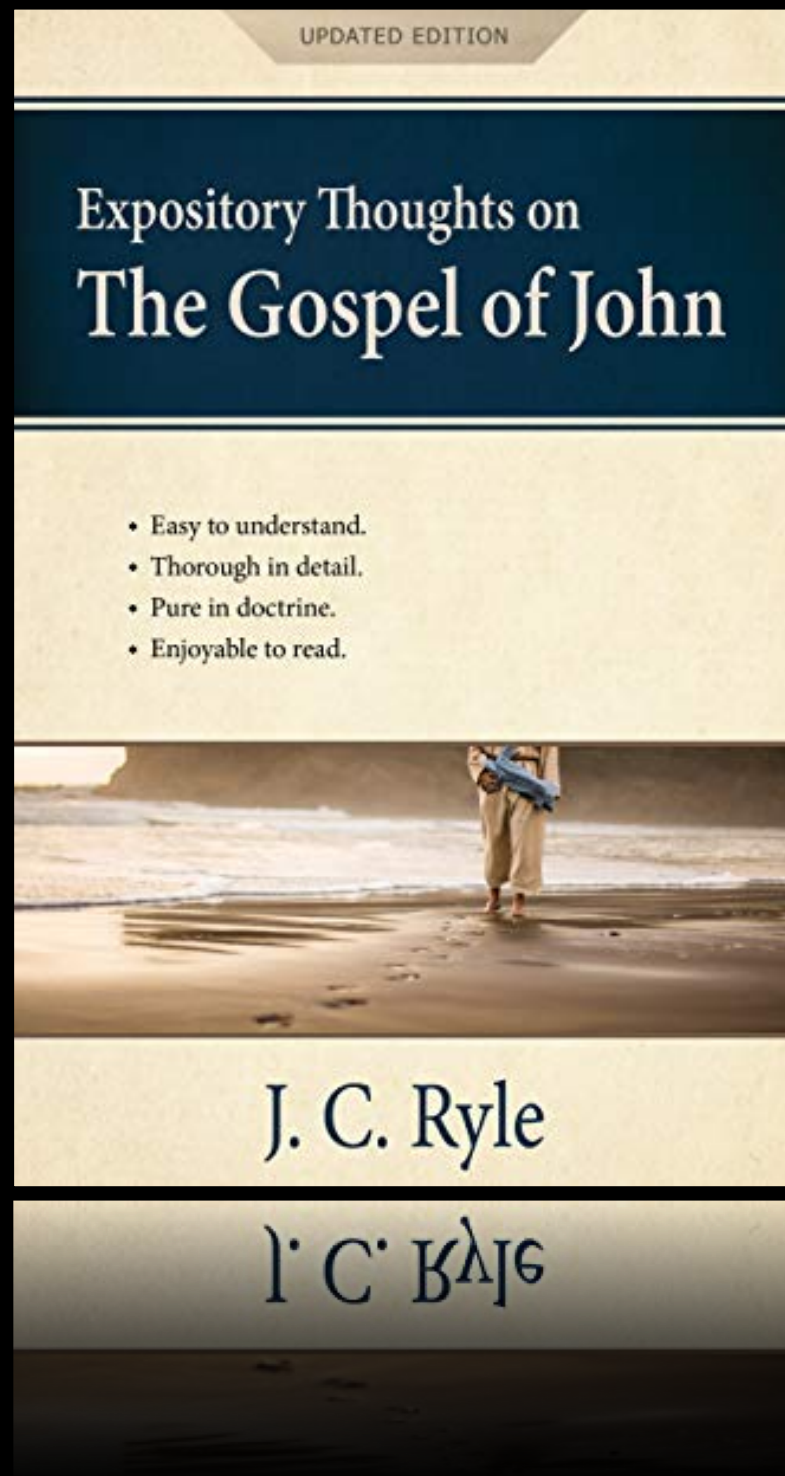
35 **By this** all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have **love** for one another.



**This is the
distinguishing
mark of
Christ's
followers.**

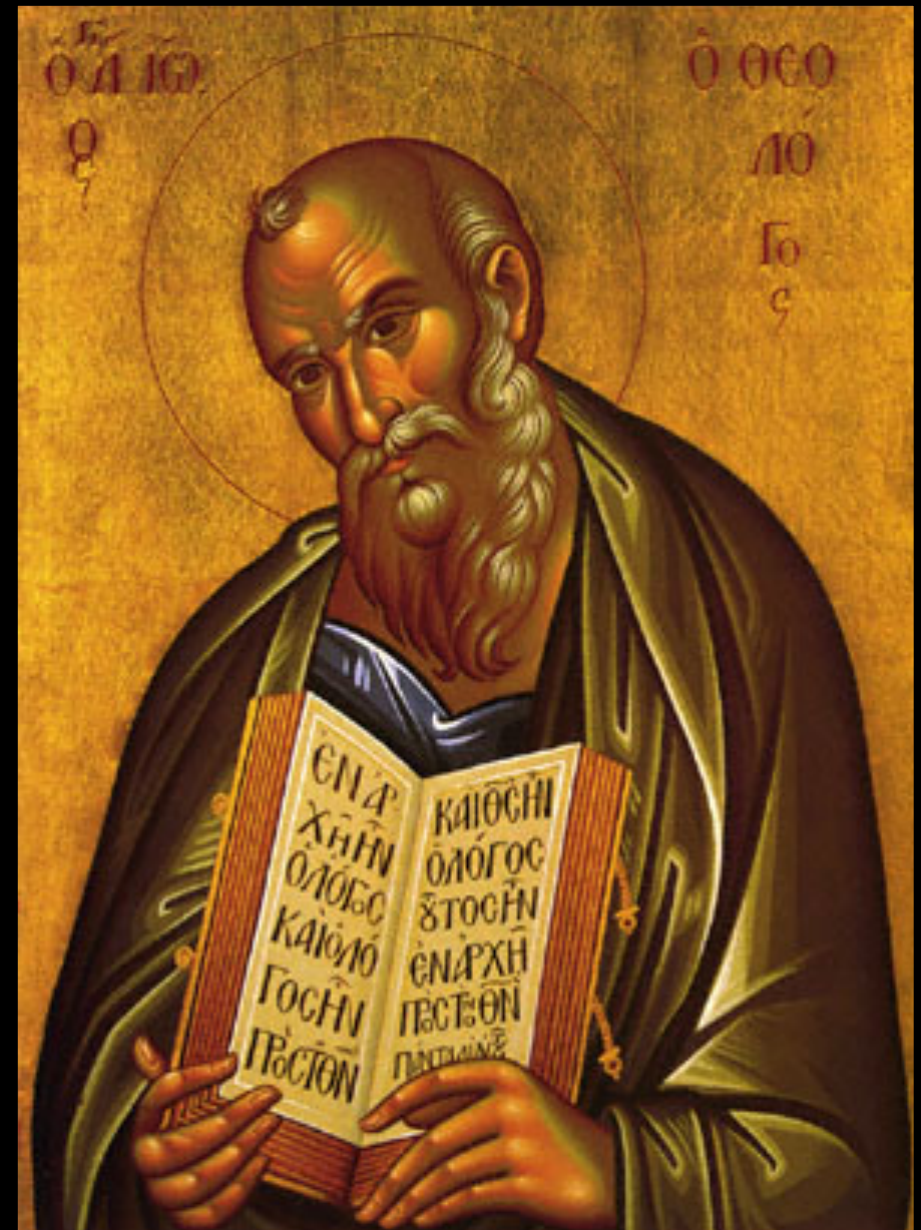
**This was to be
the badge that
Christianity
wears before
the watching
world.**





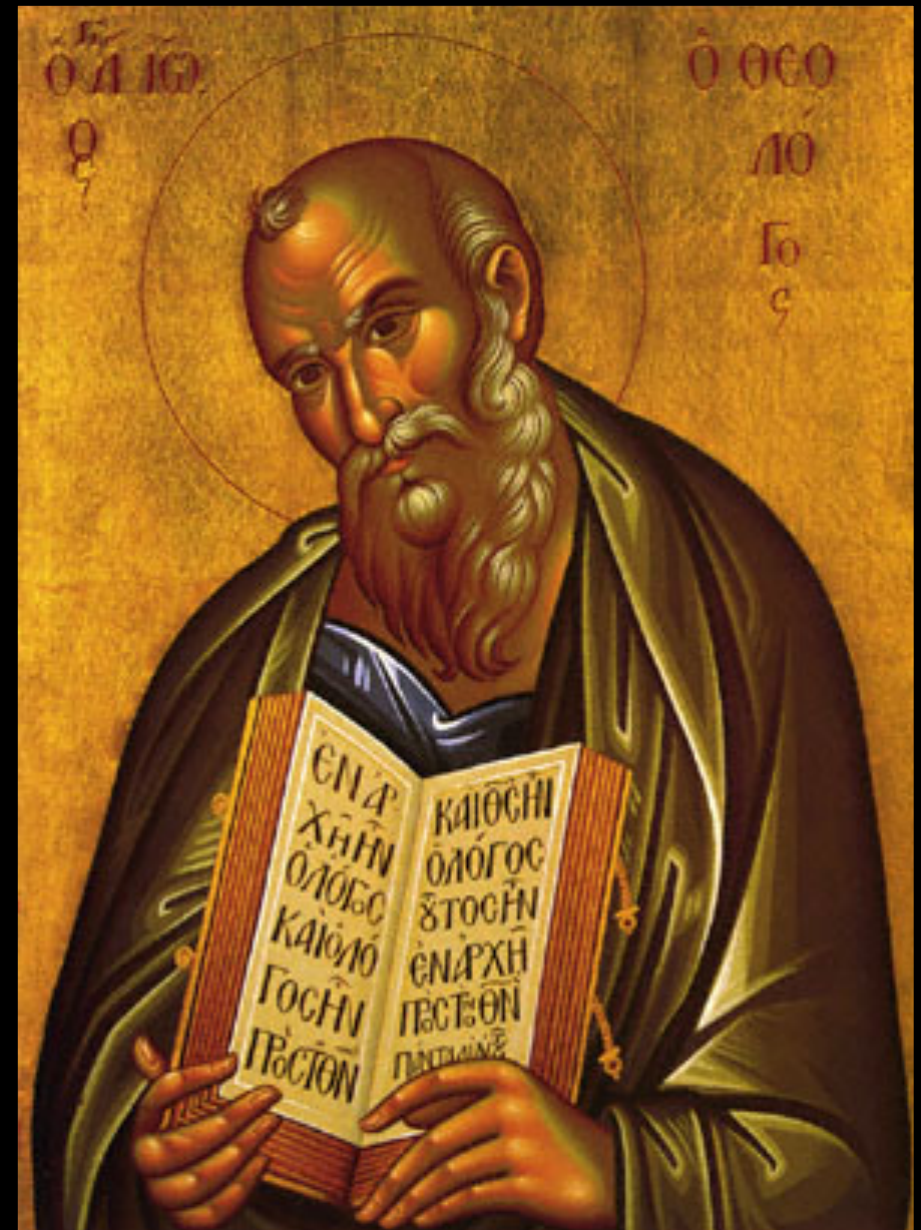
**It was to be
the test of
Christianity
before the
world.**

For this is the
message that you
have heard from the
beginning, that we
should **love one
another....**



The Apostle John
from 1 John 3-4

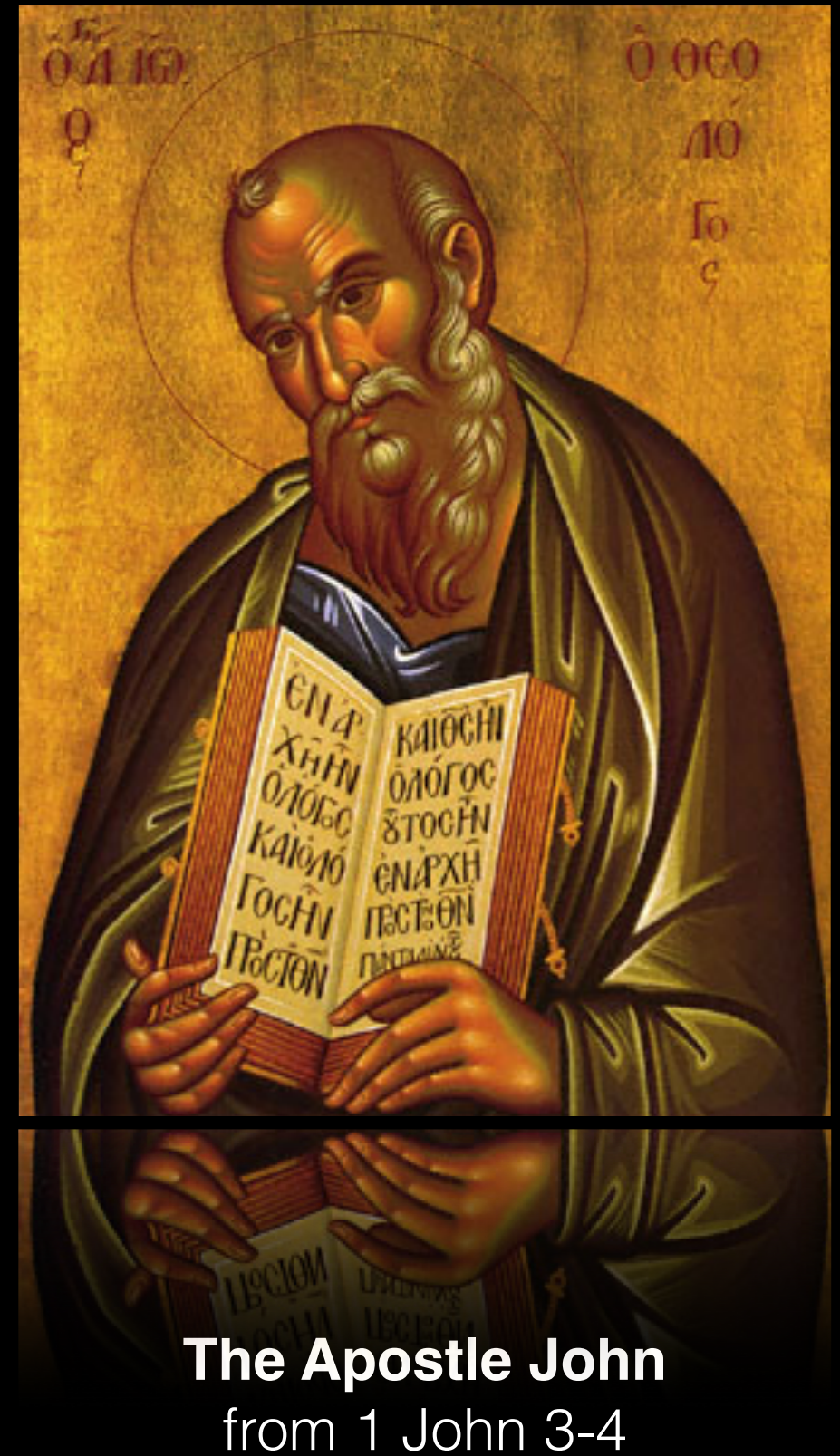
By this we know
love, that he laid
down his life for us,
and we ought to lay
down our lives for
the brothers....



The Apostle John

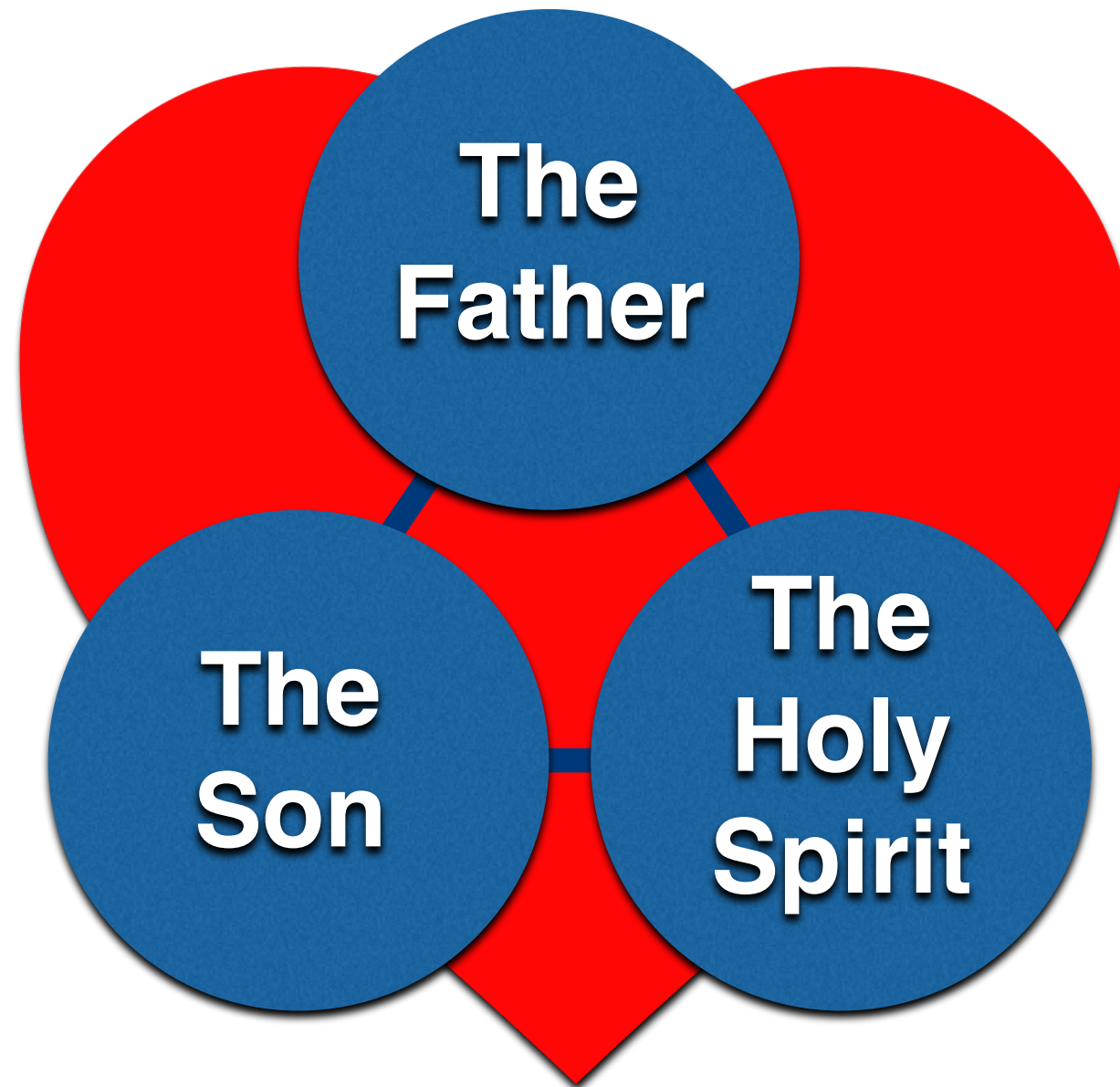
from 1 John 3-4

Beloved, let us **love**
one another, for **love**
is from God, and
whoever **loves** has
been born of God
and knows God.
Anyone who does
not **love** does not
know God, because
God is love.



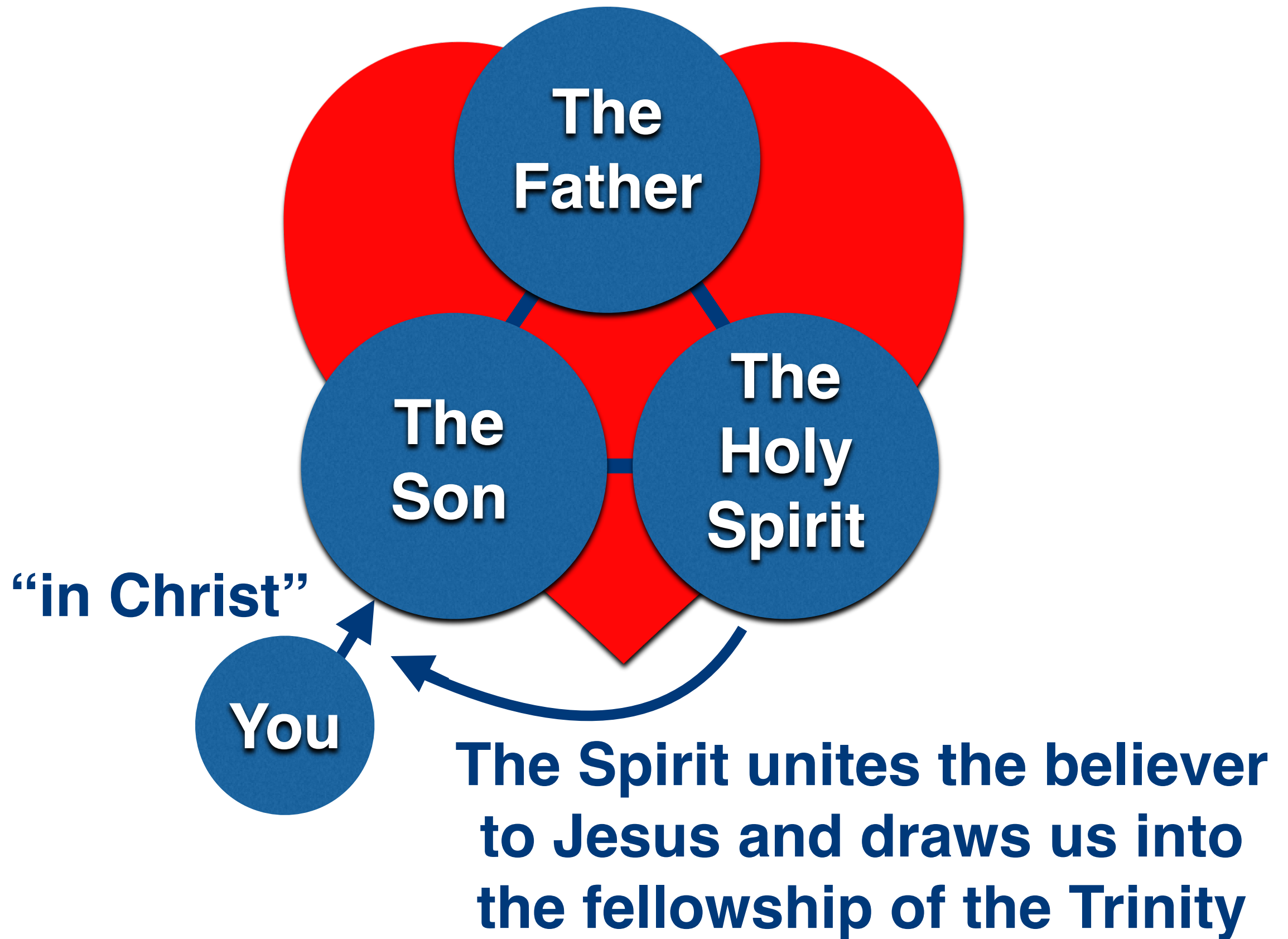
The Apostle John
from 1 John 3-4

GOD IS LOVE



**One God in Three Persons
The Blessed Trinity**

GOD IS LOVE

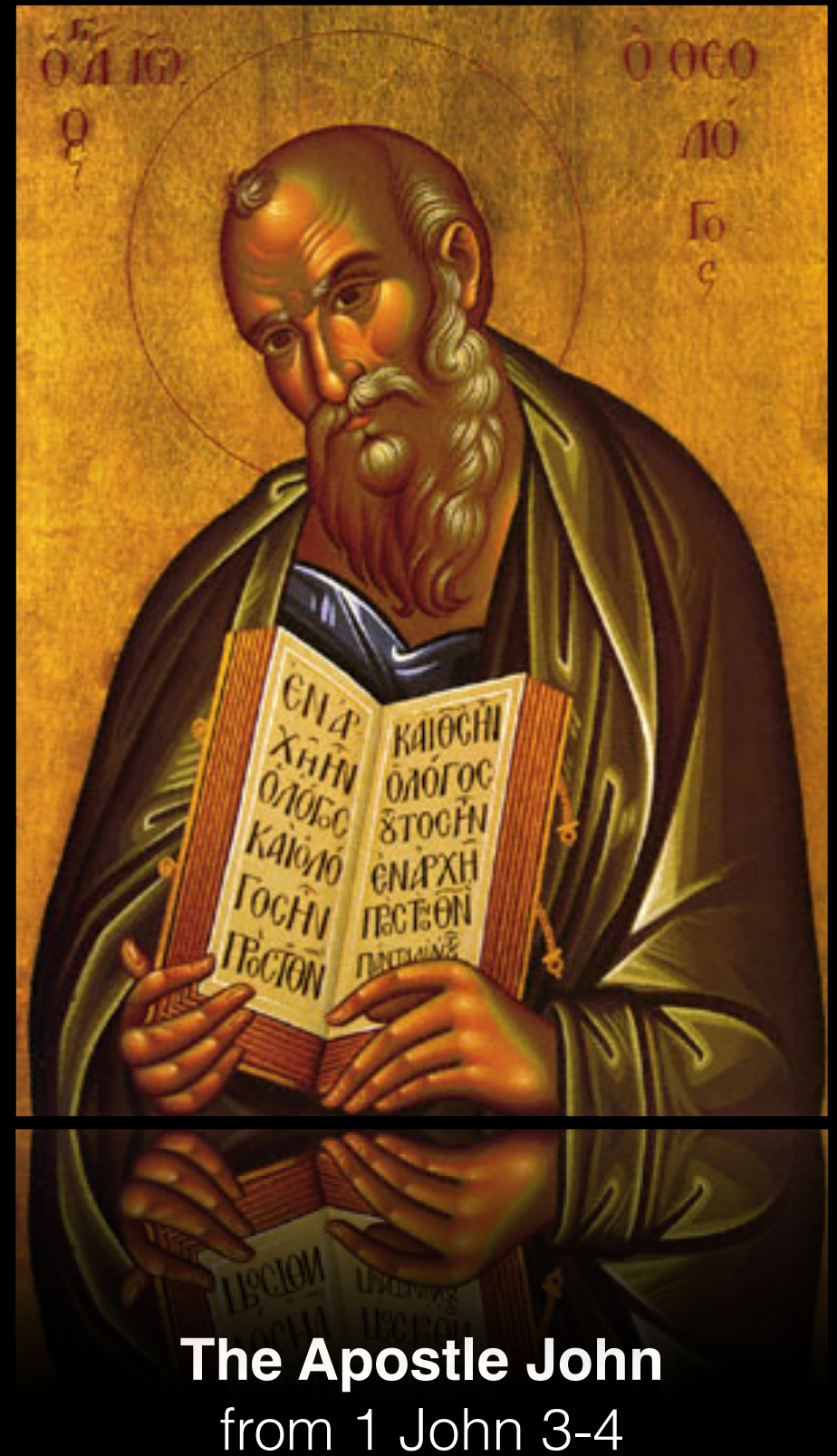


**God's love has been
poured into our
hearts through the
Holy Spirit who has
been given to us.**

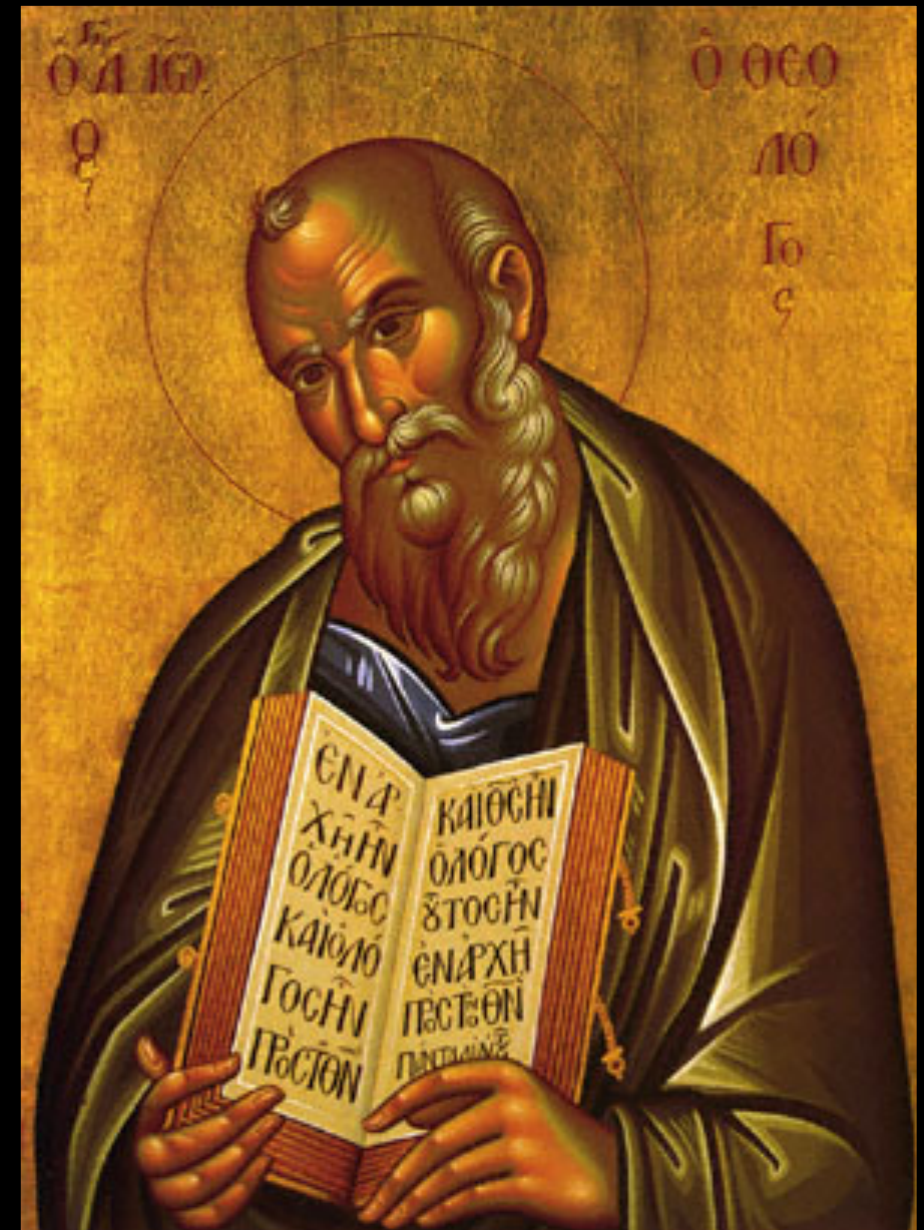
The Apostle Paul
— Romans 5:5 —



Beloved, let us **love**
one another, for **love**
is from God, and
whoever **loves** has
been born of God
and knows God.
Anyone who does
not **love** does not
know God, because
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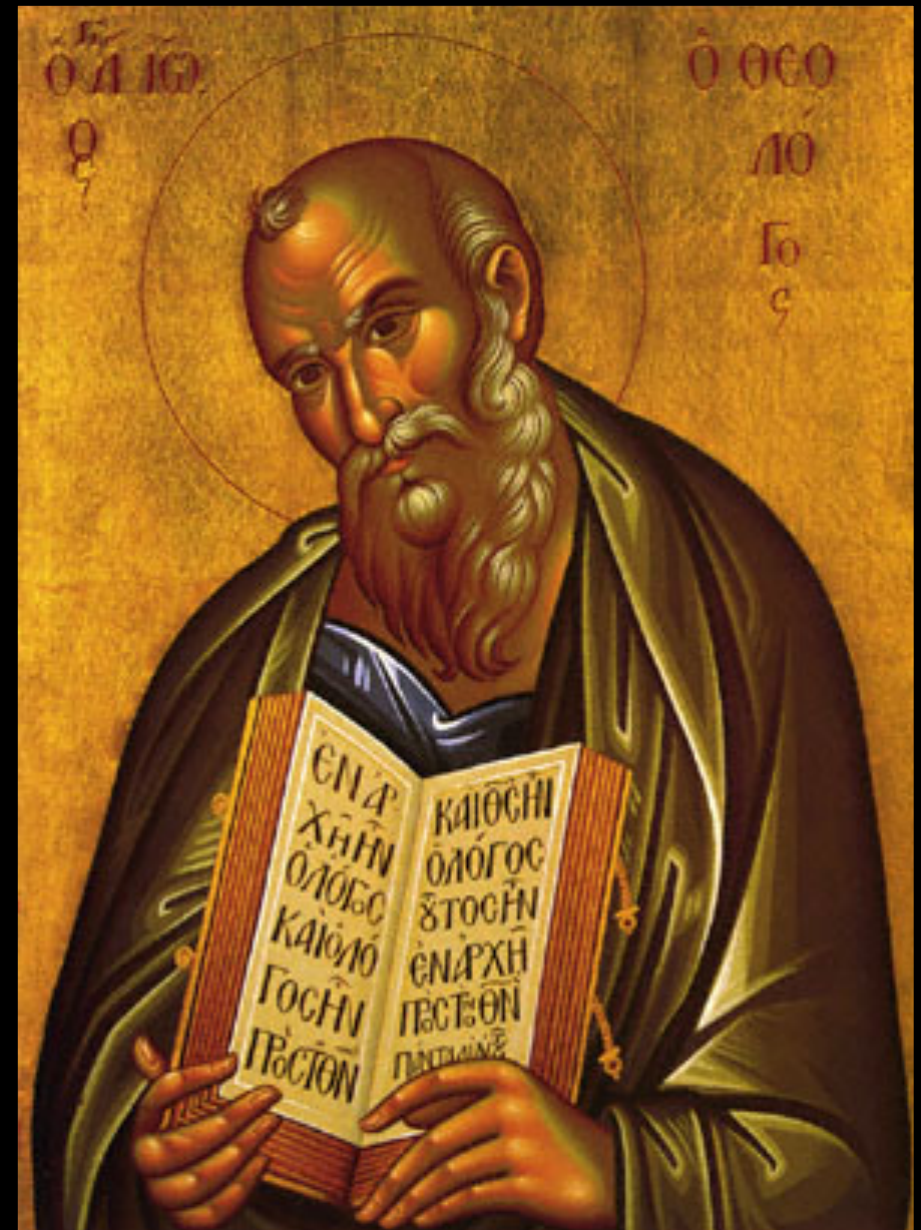


In this the **love of God** was made manifest among us, that God sent His only Son into the world, so that we might live through Him.



The Apostle John
from 1 John 3-4

Beloved, if God
so **loved** us, we
also ought to **love**
one another....
We **love** because
He first **loved** us.



The Apostle John
from 1 John 3-4



**OUR ASSIGNMENT, OUR TASK,
OUR MISSION IS TO LOVE
ONE ANOTHER AS
JESUS HAS LOVED US.**



**If I speak in the
tongues of men and
of angels, but have
not love, I am a noisy
gong or a clanging
cymbal.**

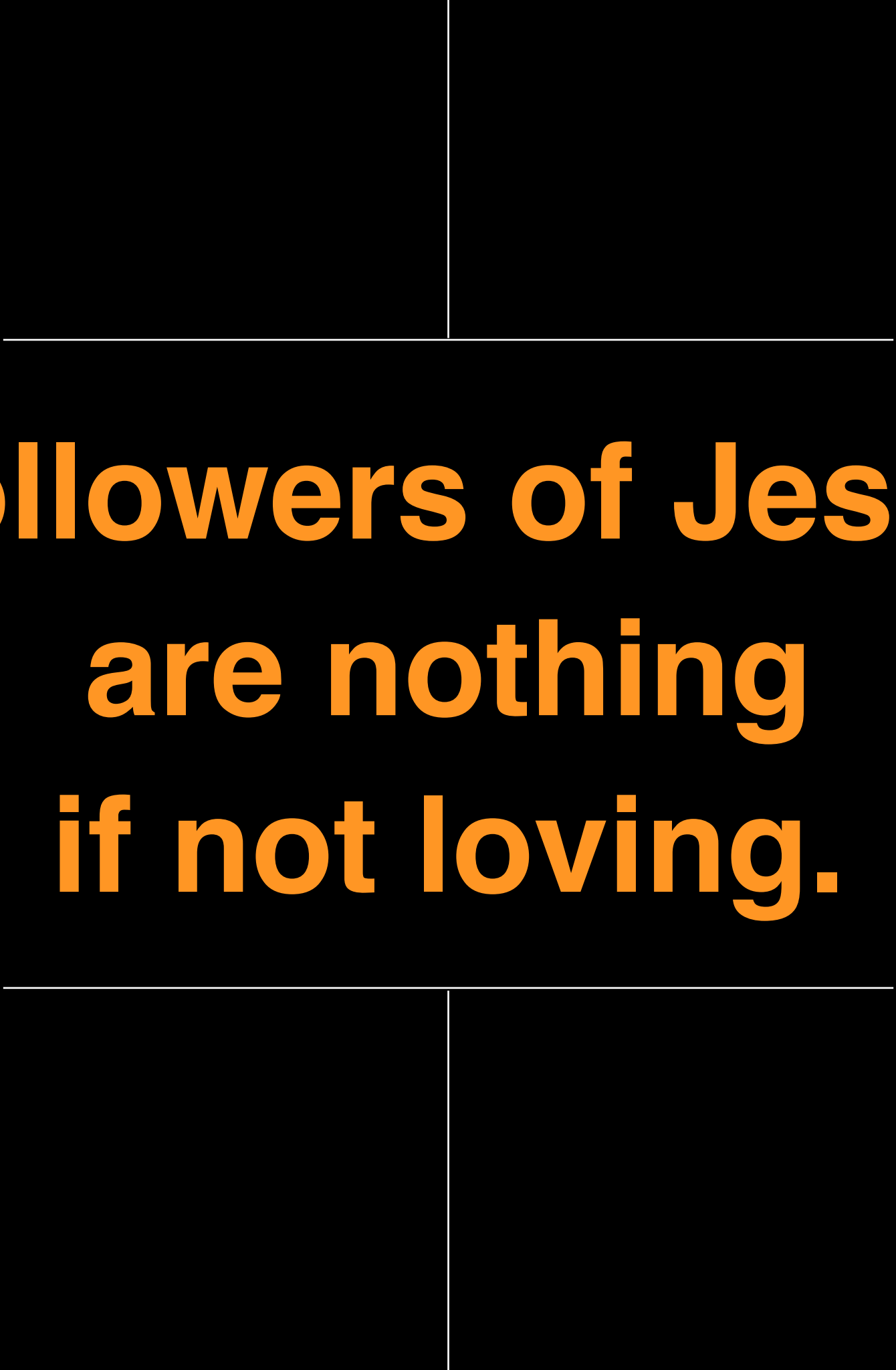


The Apostle Paul
— 1 Corinthians 13:1-3 —

**And if I have
prophetic powers,
and understand all
mysteries and all
knowledge, and if I
have all faith, so as
to move mountains,
but have not love,
I am nothing.**



The Apostle Paul
— 1 Corinthians 13:1-3 —

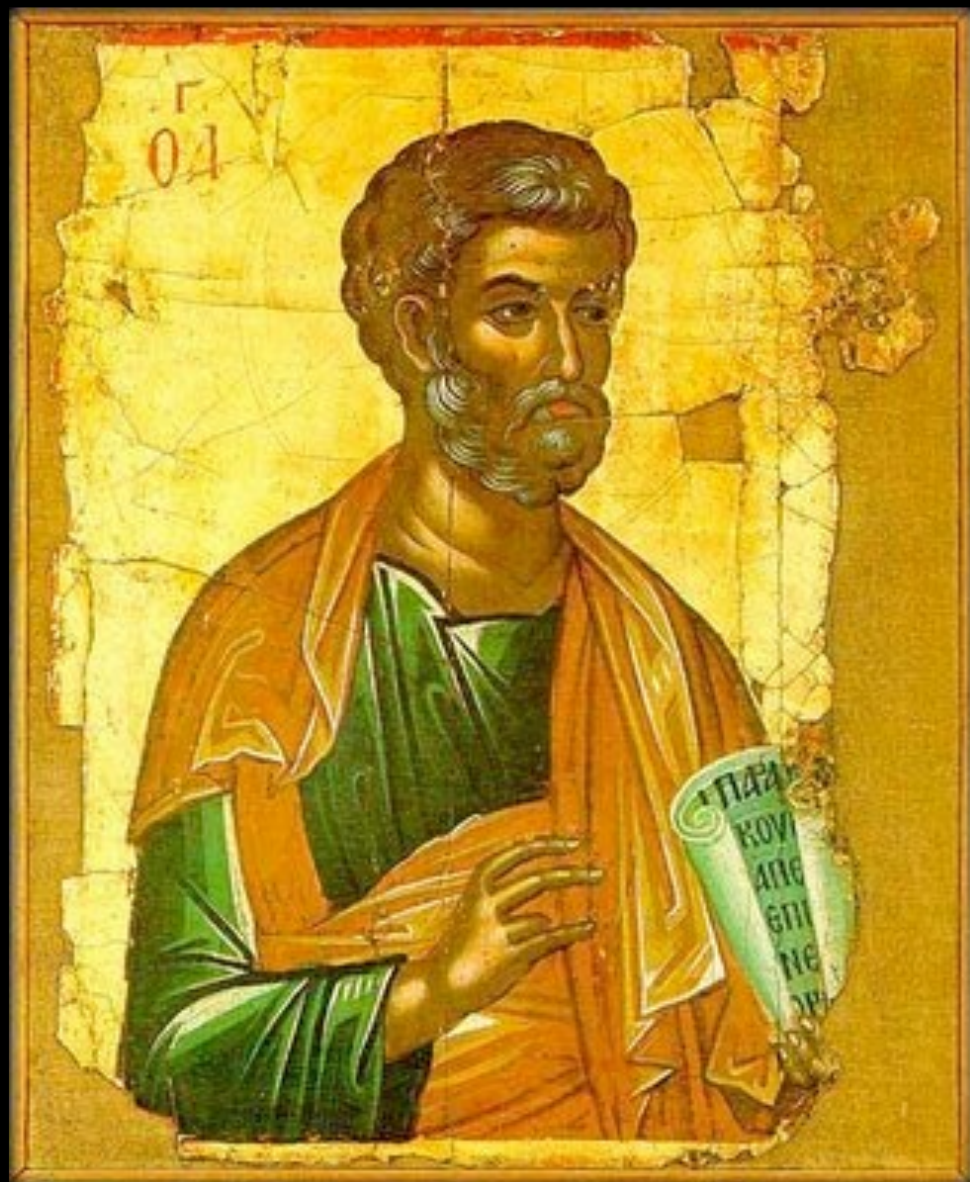


**Followers of Jesus
are nothing
if not loving.**

WHAT IF...

A stylized illustration of a human torso, rendered in a glowing blue color. The heart is prominently displayed in the center, glowing with a bright orange and red light. A network of red and blue blood vessels is visible, branching out from the heart across the chest and arms. The background is a solid blue gradient.

**Let's Get
to the Heart
of the Matter**

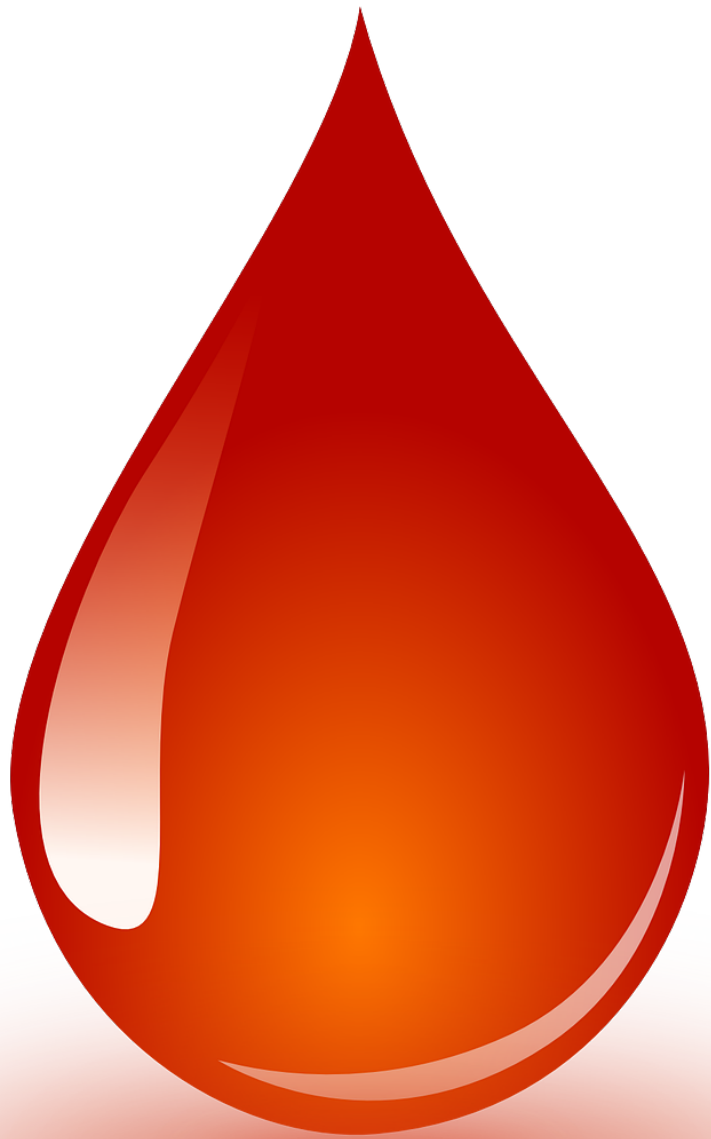


**...love one another
EARNESTLY
from a pure heart,
since you have been
born again....**

The Apostle Peter
1 Peter 1:22-23

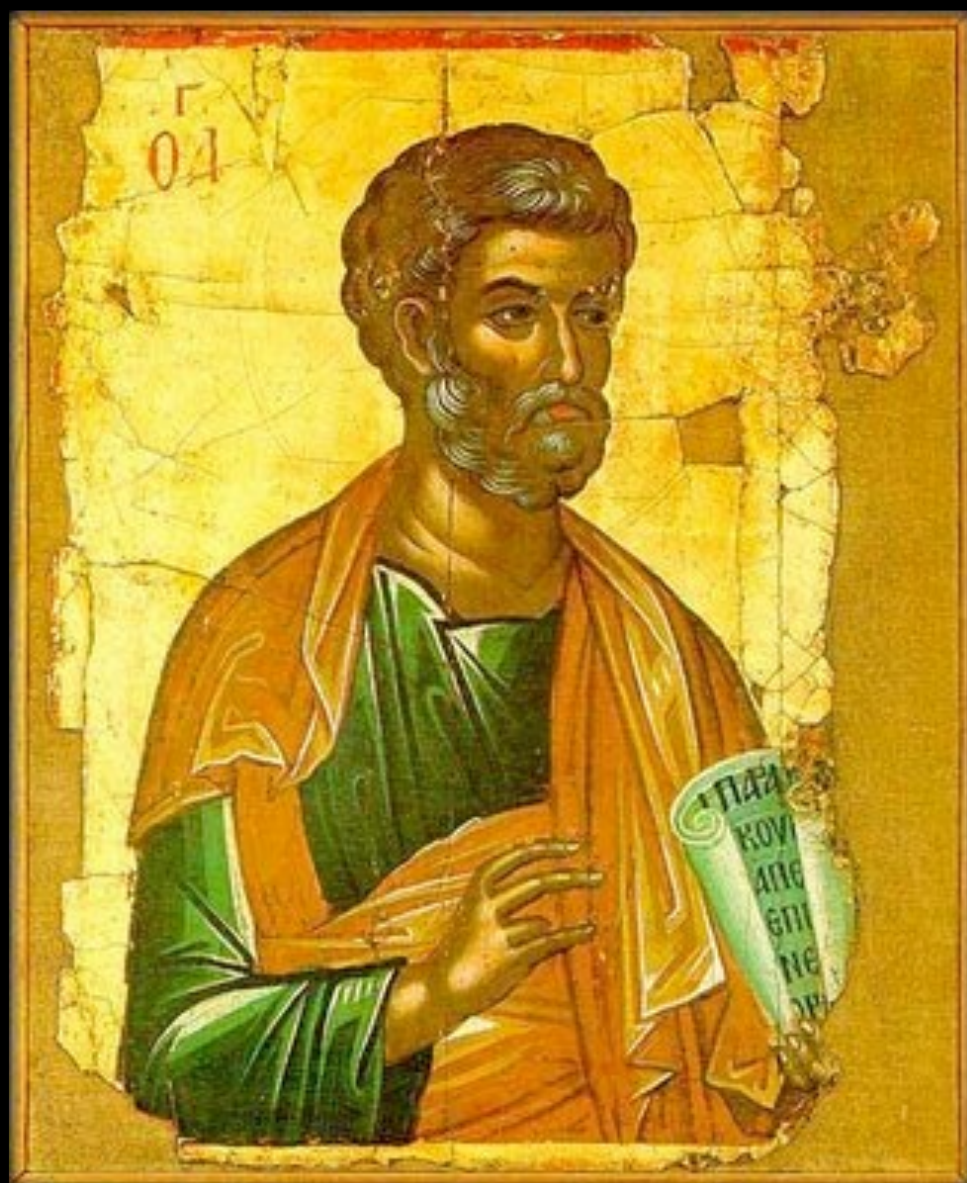


“...**EARNESTLY**...”



**And being in
agony He prayed
more EARNESTLY;
and His sweat
became like great
drops of blood
falling down to the
ground.**

— The Gospel of Luke 22:44 —

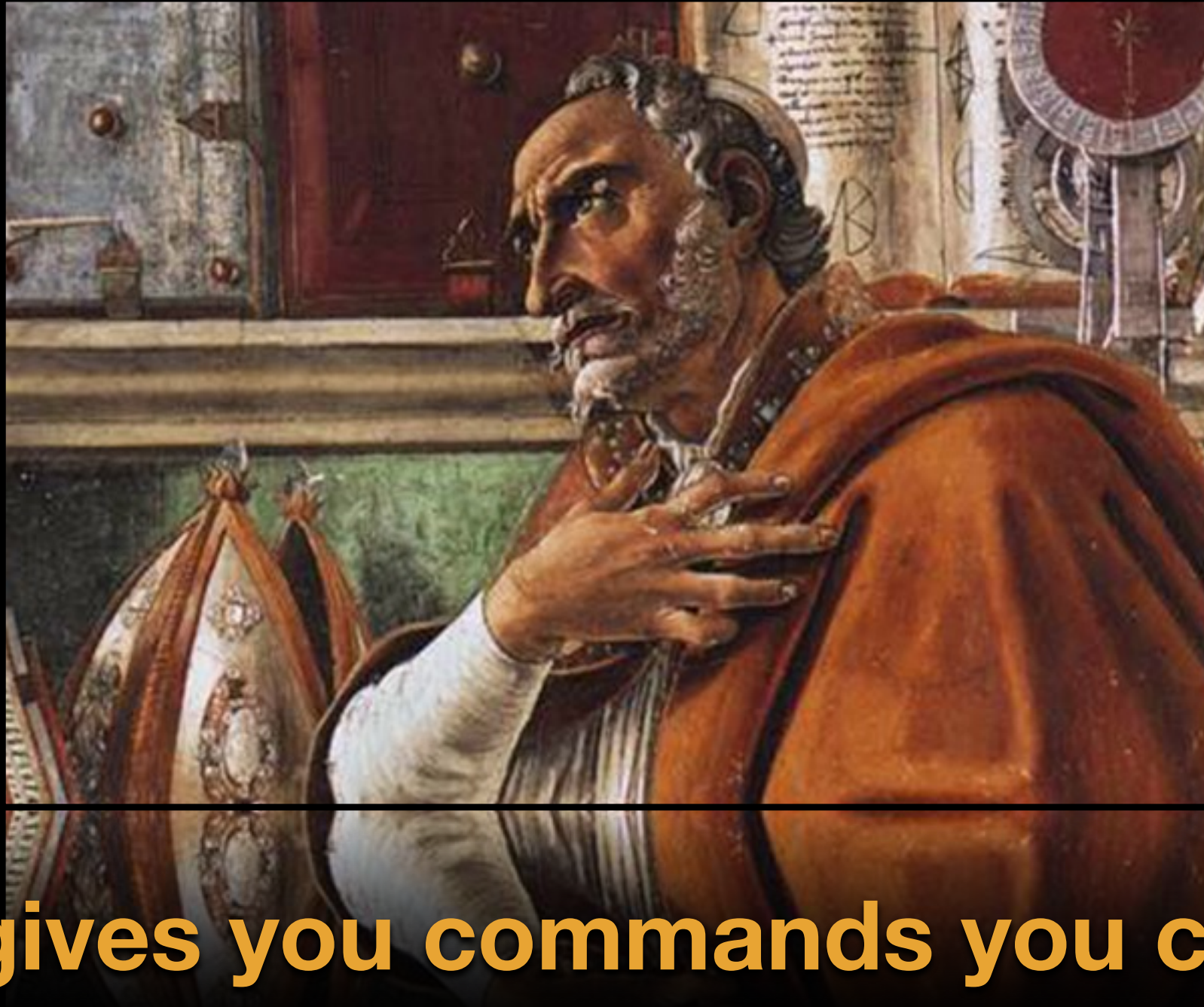


**Above all, keep
loving one another
EARNESTLY....**

The Apostle Peter
1 Peter 4:8

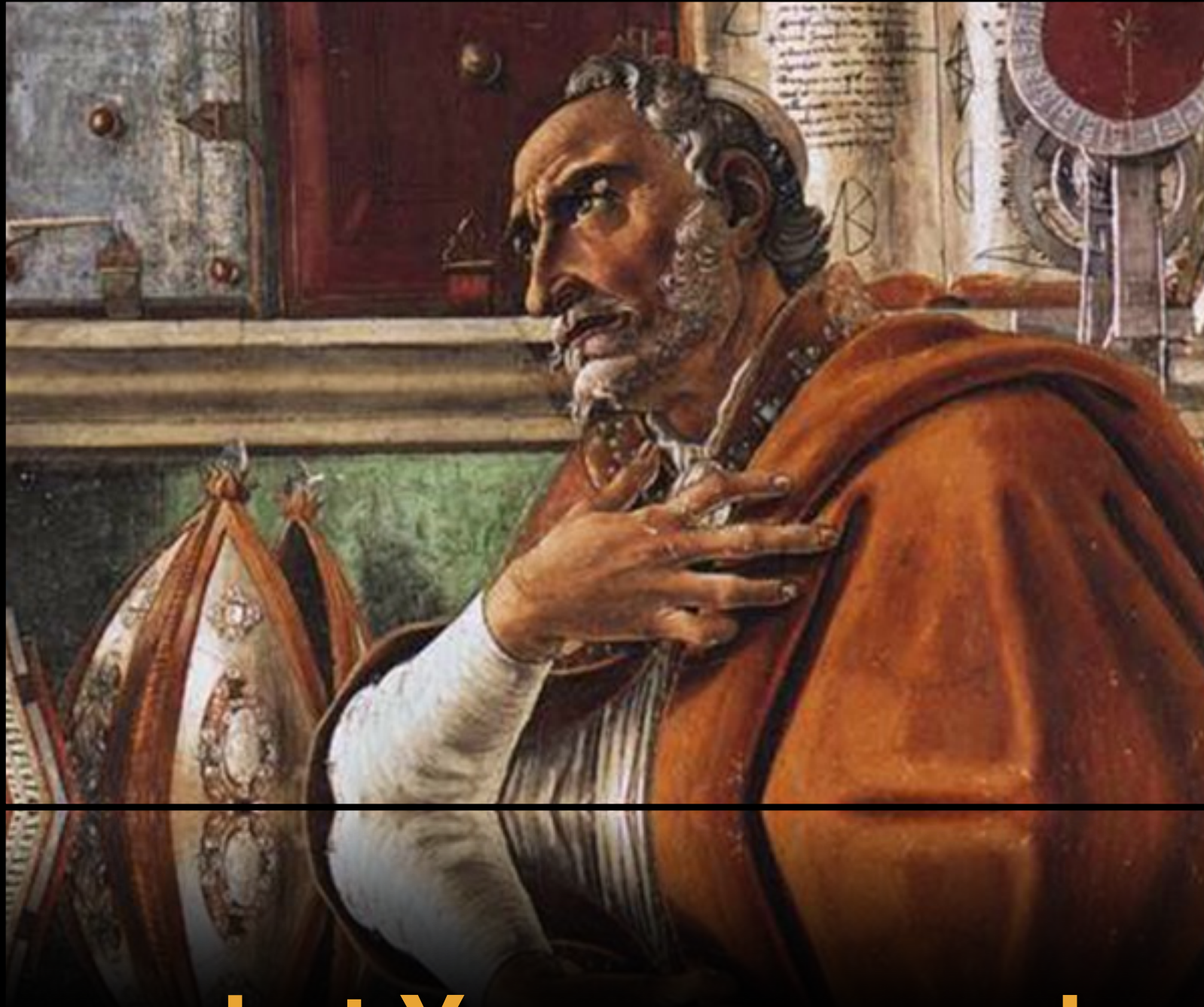
**DO YOU BELIEVE THAT GOD WANTS
TO SO TRANSFORM YOU THAT YOU LOVE
ONE ANOTHER LIKE JESUS LOVED YOU?**






God gives you commands you cannot keep so that you may know what you ought to ask of Him.

— Augustine (354-430) —



**Give what You command, and
command what You will.**

— Augustine (354-430) —

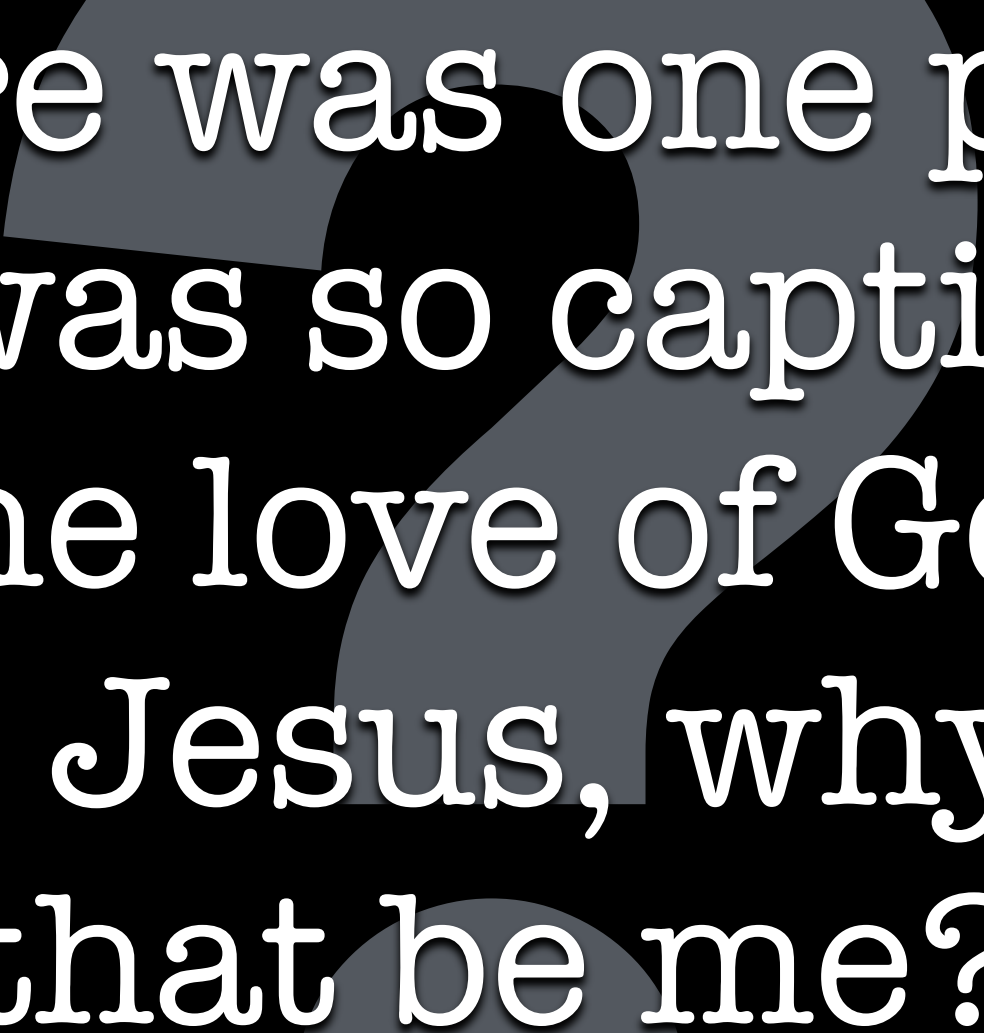
A 3D rendered image of a mechanical robot with a glowing lightbulb for a head. The robot is constructed from brass-colored metal rods, joints, and gears. It is standing on a dark, reflective surface. Its right arm is extended, holding a white power cord and inserting it into a white wall outlet. The robot's body is white, with the text "Max input: 230 V" and "© ColiN00B" printed on it. The background is a dark, textured wall. The lighting is warm, coming from the lightbulb and the wall outlet, casting shadows on the wall and floor.

**Let's Plug Into
The Right
Power Source**



**The Son of God
loved me and
gave Himself
for me.**

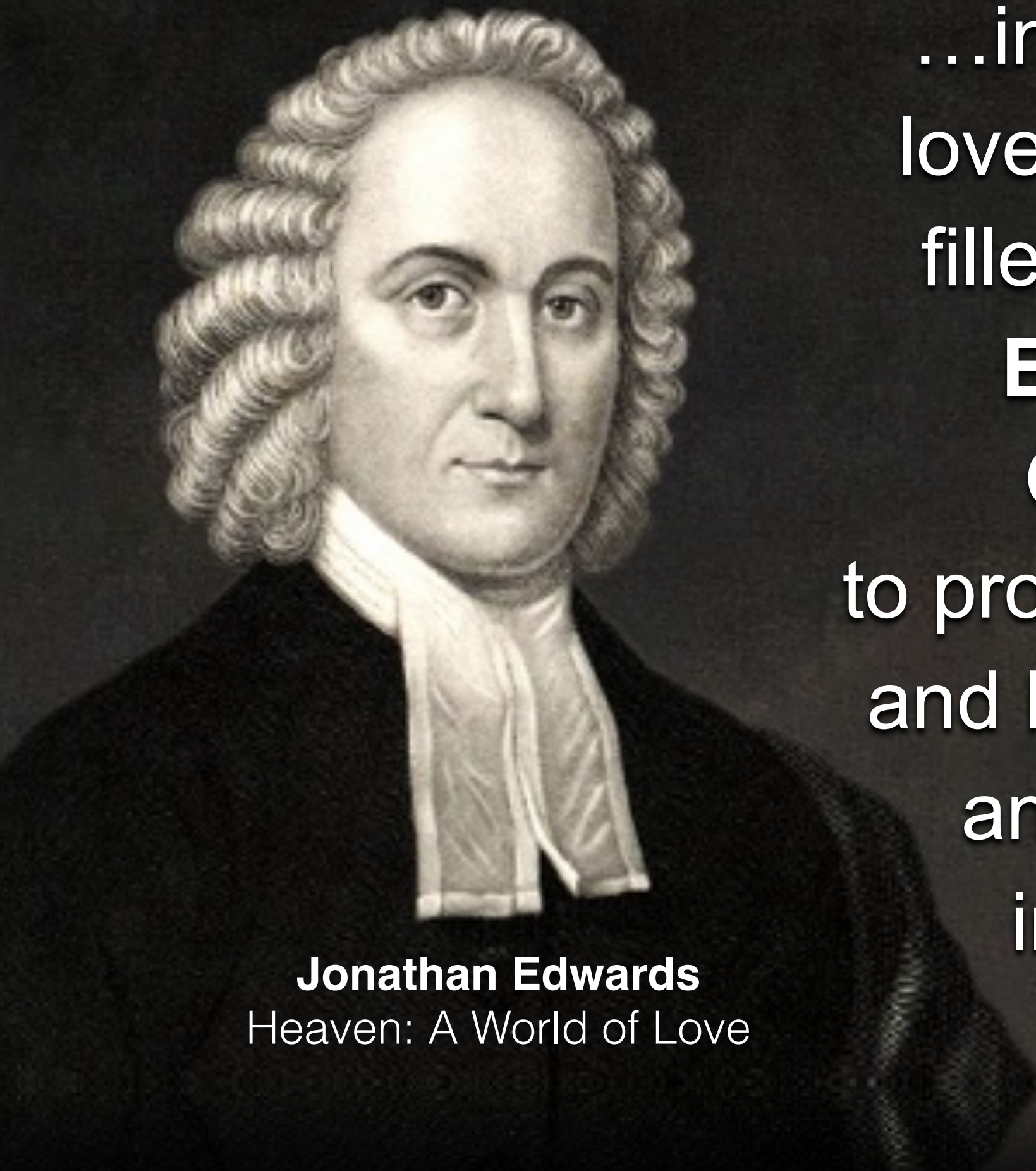
The Apostle Paul
— Galatians 2:20 —



If there was one person
who was so captivated
by the love of God in
Christ Jesus, why can't
that be me?



*Let's live the life of the future
now in the present*



Jonathan Edwards
Heaven: A World of Love

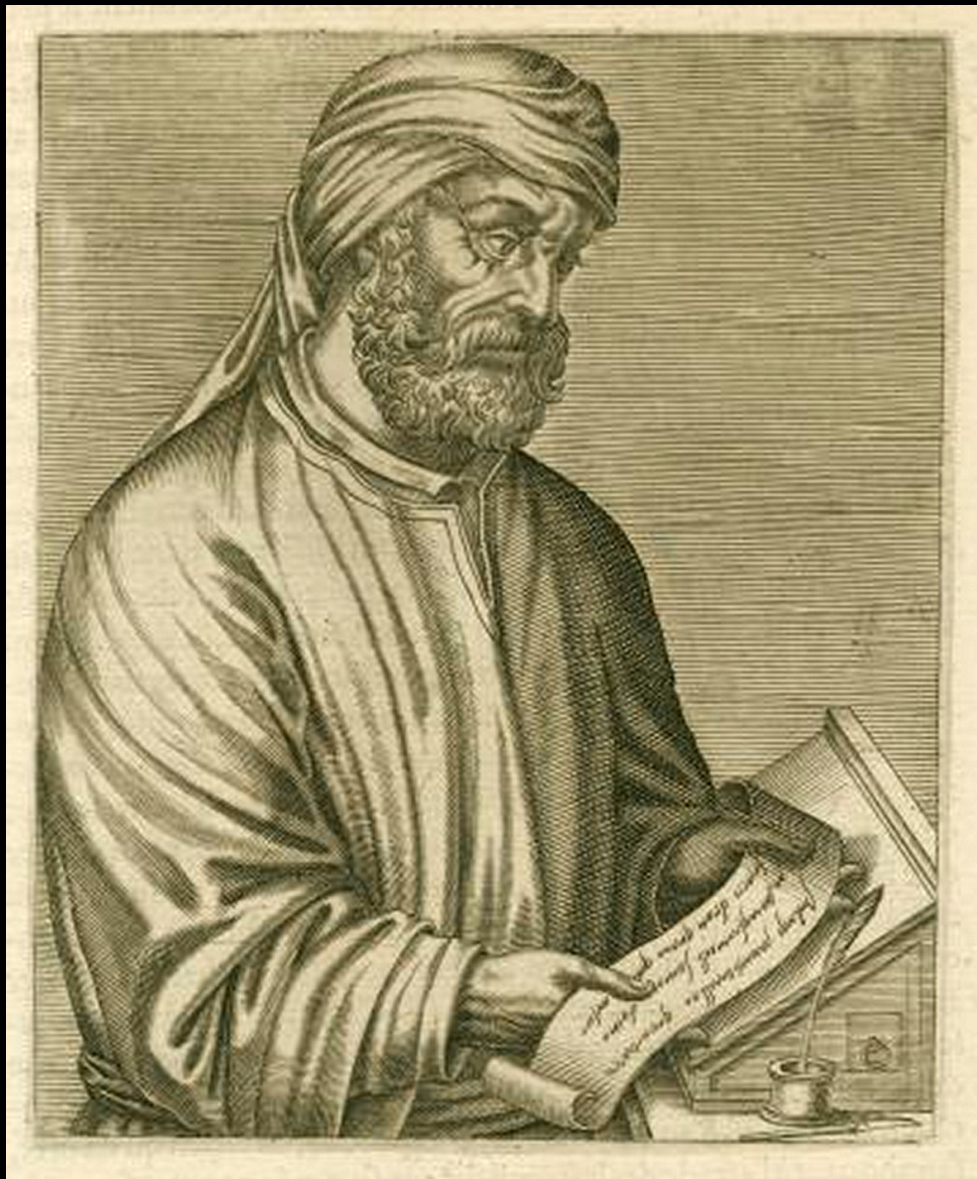
...in the paradise of
love..., everything is
filled with love, and
EVERYTHING
CONSPIRES
to promote and kindle it,
and keep up its flame,
and nothing ever
interrupts it....

IMAGINE...

**Now about your love for
one another we do not
need to write to you, for
you yourselves have
been taught by God to
love each other.... Yet
we urge you, brothers
and sisters, to do so
more and more....**



The Apostle Paul
— 1 Thessalonians 4:9-10 —



How they love one another!

Tertullian (155-220)
Apology 39.3.36



**What if Ann Rice
could say, “Today,
I became a Christian
because I simply
couldn’t resist being a
part of this group of
people who are
famous for how they
love one another”?**

May you be known as
followers of Jesus who love
one another well just as
Christ has loved you.



Gospel

```
graph TD; A[Gospel] --> B[Community]; B --> C[Mission];
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A vertical flowchart with three rectangular boxes. The top box contains the word 'Gospel', the middle box contains 'Community', and the bottom box contains 'Mission'. Each box is outlined with a dashed line. A downward-pointing arrow connects the bottom of the 'Gospel' box to the top of the 'Community' box. Another downward-pointing arrow connects the bottom of the 'Community' box to the top of the 'Mission' box.

Community

Mission