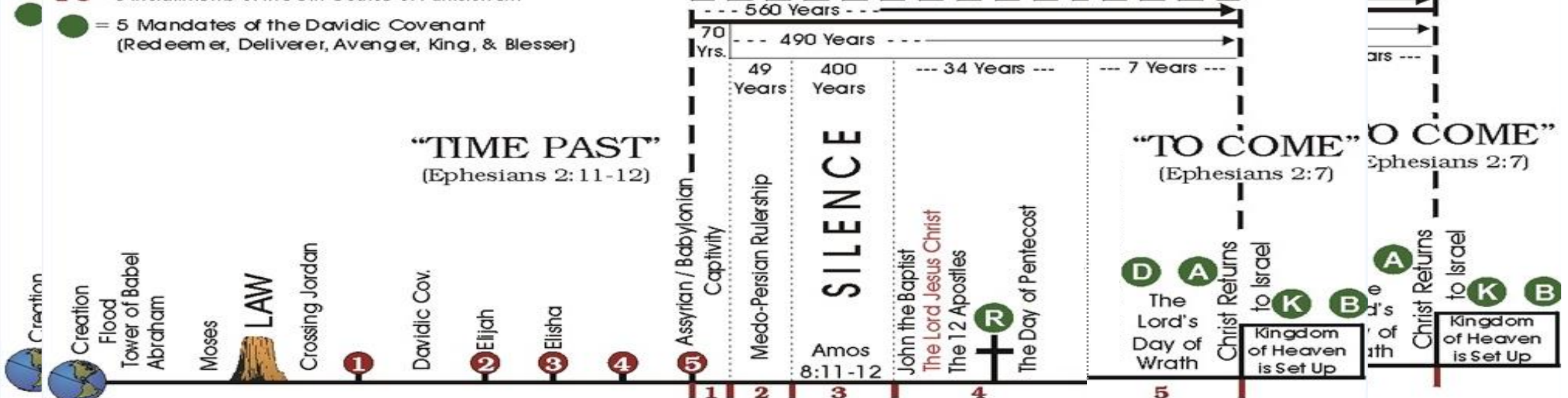


# THE REASONABLE AGAPE LOVE WAY

Overview Rom. 12-15

- = 5 Courses of Punishment (Lev. 26)
- 1-5 = 5 Installments of the 5th Course of Punishment
- = 5 Mandates of the Davidic Covenant (Redeemer, Deliverer, Avenger, King, & Blessor)

*TIMES OF THE GENTILES*



ISRAEL - "The Circumcision" - "nigh unto God"  
 THE LAW serves as a "middle wall of partition."

GENTILES - "Uncircumcision" "far off" "without God"

Genesis	Exodus Leviticus Numbers Deut.	Josh.	Jud. Ruth 1 Sam 1-16	1 Sam 16 to 1 Kgs 12	1 Kgs 12 to 2 Kgs 22	2 Kgs 1 to 10:31	2 Kgs 10:32 to 16:20	2 Kgs 17:1 to 25:30	Ezr Neh Est	The Silence of God	Matthew Mark Luke John	Acts 1-8	Hebrews James 1 & 2 Peter 1, 2 & 3 John Jude The Book of the Revelation	Hebrews James 1 & 2 Peter 2 & 3 John Jude The Book of the Revelation
				1 and 2 Chronicles		Isa, Jer, Lam, Ezk, Dan, Hos, Joel, Amos, Oba, Jon, Mic, Nah, Hab, Zeph, Hag, Zec, Mal.		Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon						

Israel's Program is Resumed and Fulfilled

Israel's Program is Resumed and Fulfilled

# PRESENTING OUT BODIES IN LOVE

1. Now that we know that the whole universe, the heavenly and earthly realms, was created for, through and to Him ... (Rom. 11:33-36; Col. 1:16-20)
2. Now that we know that we have been justified by grace through faith ... (Rom. 1-4)
3. Now that we know that we have been placed into Christ and made members of the Body of Christ (not the Nation of Israel)... (Rom. 5-8; Eph. 2-3)

4. Now that we know that the Body of Christ (and therefore us) are part of God's Mystery Program ... (Rom. 11)
5. Now that we know that God devised His Mystery Program in eternity past as the means by which He would re-establish His glory in the heavenly realm ... (Eph. 3:1-11)
6. **NOW THAT WE KNOW ALL OF THIS:** That God has involved us in the biggest and most important mission of all ...
7. The only reasonable thing we can do, the only sane way to go, is to present our bodies to God as a living sacrifice, as ones overwhelmed with the love God has for them, displayed in full at the Cross, and sharing that love with others.

8. And when we do that, allowing God to work in and through us from the heart (Rom. 5:5; 6:17) under the compulsion of Agape Love of Christ (2 Cor. 5:14) we not only minister to those around us on earth, but to the angelic realm in the Heavenlies as well, showing them the riches of God's wisdom and knowledge in using a redeemed humanity to restore the Heavenly places unto His Glory (Eph. 2-3).

--Through us the angels observe Pauline Grace in action, teaching them about something they knew nothing about before.

# GOD'S AND PAUL'S DISTINCTIVE USE OF (AGAPE) LOVE

1. The answer to everything is Agape Love.
2. Rom. 12: How to live as an assembly of believers in the world. Agape Love regulates all (Rom. 12:1, 3, 9-10, 16).
3. Rom. 13: How to live as individual believers in the world. Agape Love regulates all (Rom. 13:8-10).
4. Rom. 14-15:21: How those who have fully assimilated Paul's teachings about God's Mystery Program (the strong in faith), and those who are still transitioning out of God's Prophetic Program and into an understanding of God's Mystery Program, esp. believing Jews (the weak in faith). Agape Love regulates all (Rom. 14:15, 19; 15:1-3).

- 5. It is only based on Agape Love, the Love of God displayed at the Cross of Christ, that we can present ourselves a living sacrifice:**
  - a. Rom. 1:18-32: Fallen humanity's fundamental problem is that in their rebellion against God and His Word in unbelief, they became enslaved to their own selfish lusts under the power by Sin that leads to Death, destroying everything in its path.**
  - b. The only solution to this problem is for God to provide sinners with a way to return to Himself in faith, through Christ's death on the Cross as proclaimed in Paul's Gospel, which is the only thing that can free sinners from their own selfish lust, sin and death and build up everything in their path.**

**6. This is the only basis for true worship of and service to God (Rom. 12:1-2):**

**a. The only service accepted by God, that is completely apart from the contamination of Sin and Death, is the service that comes from Agape Love:**

**Selfless service that flows out of the Love of God at the Cross of Christ for the sole purpose of building up others in God's Truth for today.**

**b. This is the only way Rom. 3:23 can be resolved and we become glory displayers.**

**--The Holy Spirit recreating the sinner's heart with Pauline Grace and filling it up with Agape Love.**



8. **Christ's pattern of AGAPE LOVE looks like this and is the basis for Paul's, Timothy's, Epaphroditus and Philipians (Phil 2):**
  - a. **Although: Christ possessed status of being God with all its advantages, rights and privileges,...Phil. 2:5-8**
  - b. **Not: He didn't consider it something to be grasped for Himself—He didn't use them for His own advantage ...**
  - c. **But: Something to be used in a self-giving way for the advantage of others.**
  
7. **Believers are provisioned and empowered with the great PRIVILEGE of exercising their rights and privileges not for themselves but for the building up of others in the faith.**  
  
**--The flip side of which is NOT exercising their rights and privileges at all if exercising them means harming another.**

- 8. Any place you see these things, Paul is talking about Love.  
--Rom. 1:7-16; 15:1-3—Paul's service of Love to the Romans.**
  
- 9. The whole Christian life centers on Christ Crucified and His Love.  
(1 Cor. 16:14)**
  
- 10. Putting together the meaning of love:**
  - a. 1 Cor. 13:5: Love seeks not its own.**
  - b. 1 Cor. 10:24, 33: Love seeks not its own but the other's.**
  - c. 1 Cor. 8:1: Love seeks not its own but the others for the purpose of building up and edifying believers and the assembly in God's truth for today.**
  - d. 1 Cor. 10:33-11:1: Follow Paul in all of this because he is the one following Christ in this.**

11. The Agape Love that comes from Pauline Grace cannot be found in extra-biblical writings and IT CANNOT EVEN BE FOUND IN THE NON-PAULINE SCRIPTURES.

--If you don't rightly divide, you won't understand Agape Love because like Paul's other distinct teachings, Paul's use of "agape" is distinct not only from extra-biblical writers of the Greek world but from all the other Scripture writers as well, including John.

12. Outside Paul's Scriptures, "agape" is a general word with little specific meaning of its own. It can be used as a general term for a variety of specific loves—brotherly, etc.

13. You can not define Paul's use of "agape" by going to John.
- a. For John "agape" love is mostly a verb: doing what is right and best for others and is used interchangeably with other love words like phileo (brotherly love). (Jn. 21:15-17)
  - b. For Paul, "agape" love is mostly a noun that is special distinct from all other love words: the Love of God displayed at the Cross of Christ and that believers can now participate in and extend to others by the Holy Spirit. (Rom. 5:5)

15. Why is “agape” only a general and inclusive word in God’s Prophetic Program with the Nation of Israel?

- a. In God’s Prophetic Program God is manifesting the Righteousness of God in Saving His **FRIENDS** (brothers and sisters) and Destroying His Enemies (Lk. 1:68-75).
- b. In the Prophetic Program Christ died for His **FRIENDS** (brothers and sisters) (Jn. 15:13).
- c. Therefore, “agape” and brotherly love are fairly interchangeable.

16. But why in God's Mystery Program for the Body of Christ does Agape take on a special meaning?

- a. In God's Mystery Program God is manifesting the Righteousness of God in Saving His **ENEMIES** Because He has NO FRIENDS (Rom. 3:21-25).
- b. In the Mystery Program Christ died for His **ENEMIES** (Rom. 5:10; Eph. 2).
- c. Therefore, "agape" and other words for love are no longer interchangeable. Agape love is separated from Philadelphia love.

AGAPE LOVE

OTHER LOVES



ALL OTHER LOVES

Agape Love

