

The Concept of Love in the Epistles of John : Comparison with the Concept of Apostle Paul

This thesis concerns the concept of love in John's Epistles. It tries to compare this concept with the way Paul uses the notion of love in his Epistles. It is primarily based on the biblical text, and it gives voice to commentaries in the second plan. Initially, the thesis summarises the development, the situation and the form of the community in John's concept. Subsequently it analyses John's Epistles' language with regard to the Gospel of John and Paul's Epistles. Another part of the thesis studies what were the sources of the author of John's Epistles and how he understood the theology of love which is examined in several points. At first the identity of God is described as the starting point. It is followed by the changed human identity, which puts man into a new situation. Subsequently it is described how does the author understand his own notion of love and what practical conclusions does he draw. The same outline is followed in the description of Paul's understanding of the notion of love. Finally, both concepts are compared and summarised in several points. The goal of the thesis is to cover both authors' basis, opinions and conclusions of understanding the notion of love to show the differences and the correspondences in both concepts. The thesis is based on the pre-comprehension that both sets of biblical books are independent units to some extent, but they are united in one Christian Bible.