

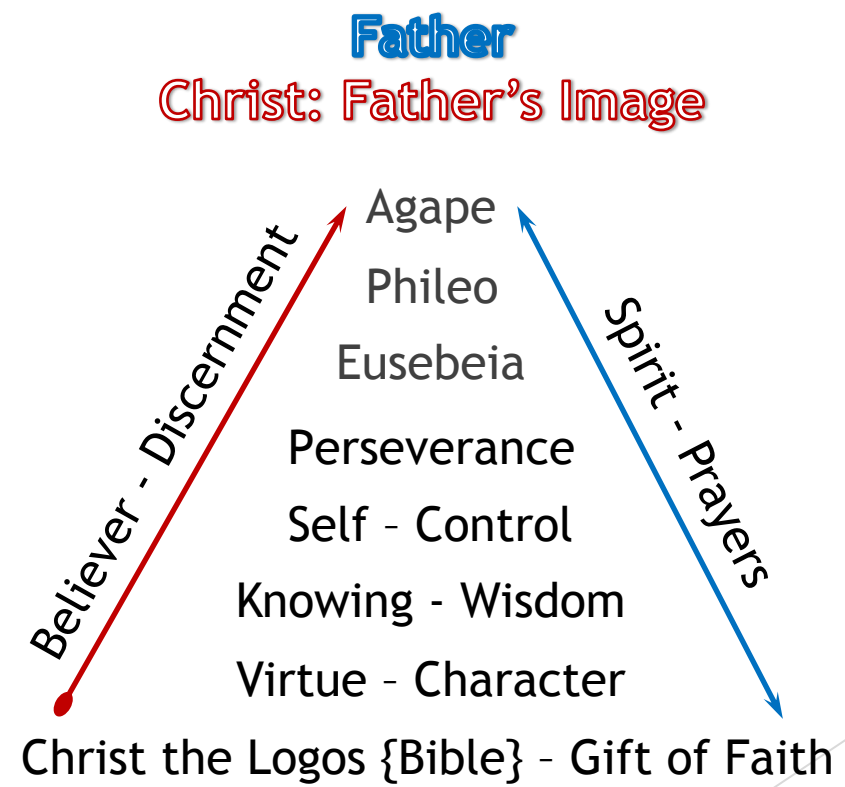
# Jude 20 - Mercy Drives the Gospel

Dr. Leon L. Sanders

Jude 21

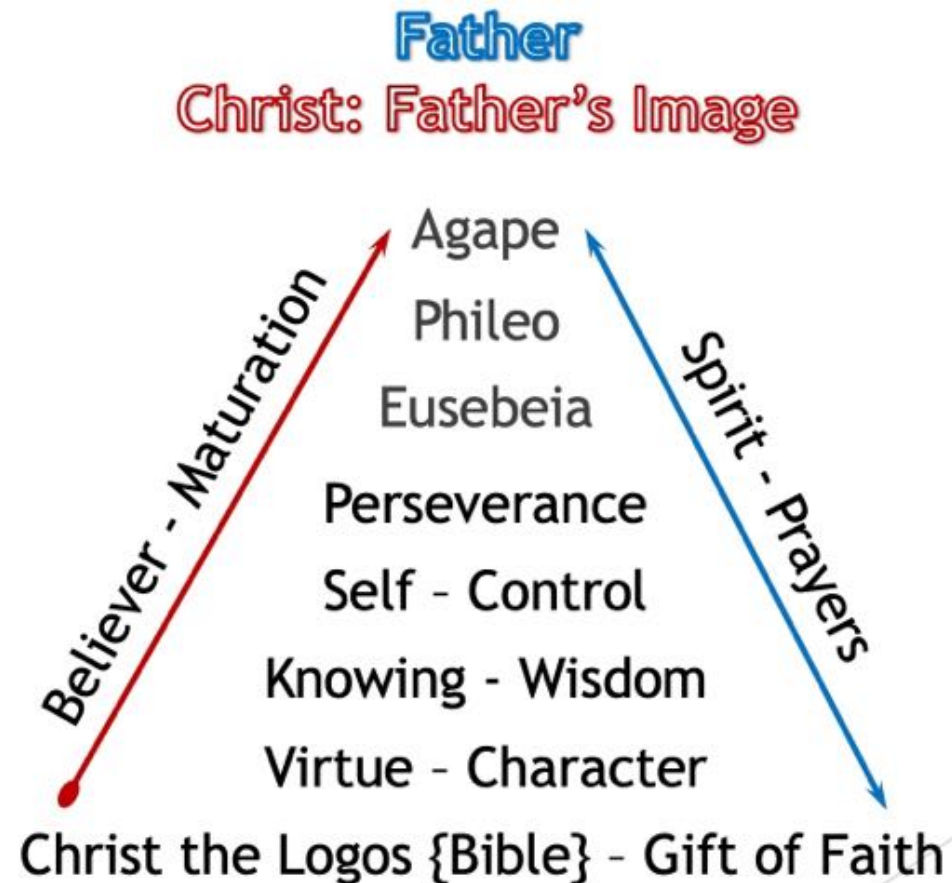
# Prologue - Believer's Maturation: Growing in Grace - Discernment

- ▶ From Christ the foundation, author of Faith, we are *commanded* to build our maturation: Peter
- ▶ We continue building with each each decision: Jude
- ▶ Progression grows us in grace: eusebeia + knowing = Wisdom (2Pe 3:18)
- ▶ Christ: image of the Father (Col 1:15-23)
- ▶ All made in His image(ish) (Ge 1:27)
- ▶ Saved continue growing in Christ's image - Discernment (1Co 13:9-12; Ga 2:20; Ep 4:15-15; He 5:11-14)



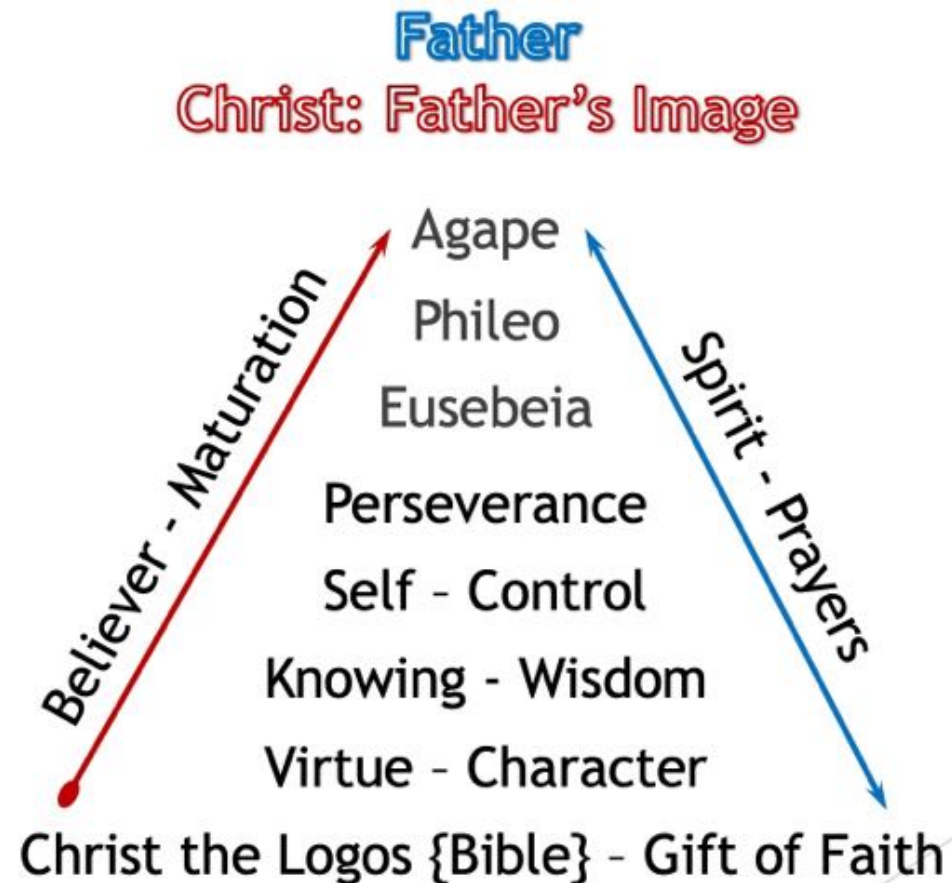
# Prologue - Every Choice: Development of You 101

- ▶ Christ, Logos, uses the Word, Bible, energized by Spirit giving us growth template (1Co 2:14; 2Ti 3:16-17; He 1:1-2)
- ▶ Each choice builds from our current character strengthening either *New Man* or *Flesh* (2Pe 2:19-22)
- ▶ We participate by our knowing the Bible coupled with experience to gain wisdom {Facts + Eusebeia}
- ▶ Develops *fruits of Spirit*: Self-Control to resist sin (Ga 5:22-23; He 5:11-14)
- ▶ Perseverance {Hypomene}, remain behind; we patiently await Christ's coming: Doubt  $\neq$  Godly Wisdom (Mk 9:23-24; Ep 6:10-13)



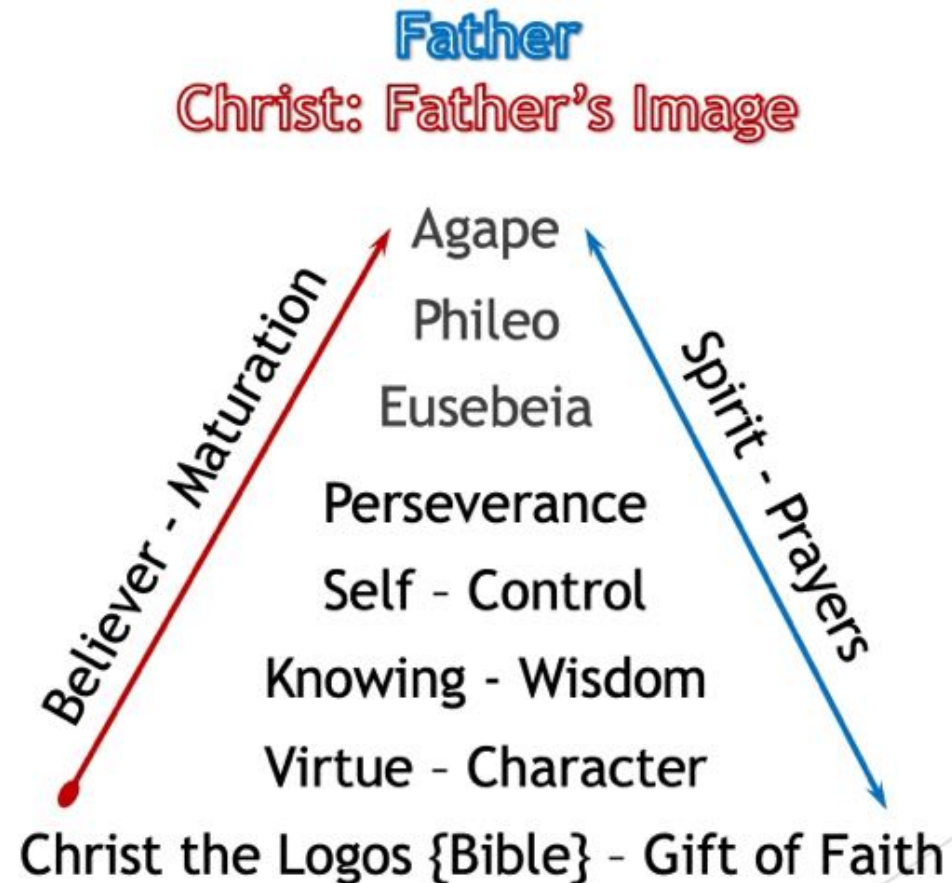
# Prologue - Every Choice: Development of You 201

- ▶ Godliness {Eusebeia} not luck but purposeful maturing from sin's worldview to God's view of World (Ro 1:18-28)
- ▶ Jude specifically uses Phileo and Agape referring to different foci
- ▶ Phileo: Love of Christians; love those you do see (1Jo 2:6)
- ▶ Agape: Love God-Christ whom you cannot see: Keep His Commands (1Jo 4:21; 5:1-3)
- ▶ If you do not Phileo, you cannot Agape (1Jo 2:9-11; 4:20-21)



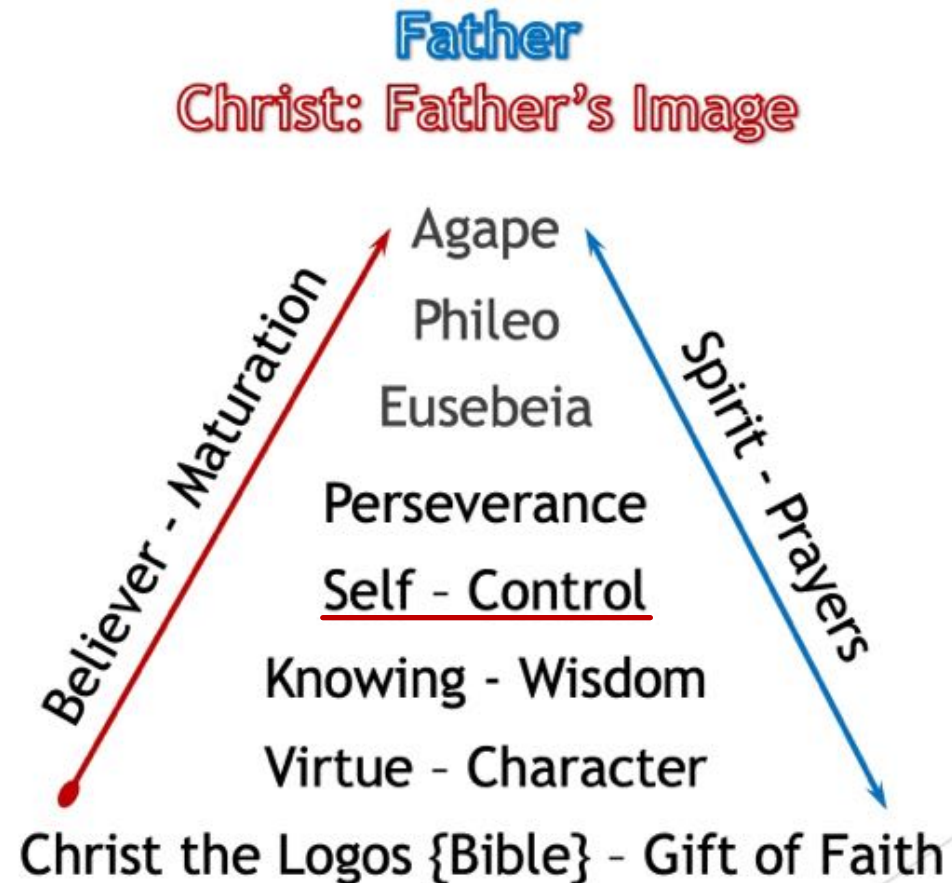
# Prologue - Jude Continues: Praying Always

- ▶ Jude writes; this requires Prayer
  - ▶ Praying: Deponent participle: your ongoing comms with God you do for you; No prayer = No growth
  - ▶ Spirit intercession vital due to our absolute lack of spiritual senses; immature believe they know spirits (Ro 8:26-27; 1Co 3:1-3)
- ▶ False Teachers substitute many myths for Christ's Gospel for you to *feel better* in ignorance (1Jo 1:17)
  - ▶ They encourage covetousness: Idolatry (Ge 3:1-5; Col 3:5)
  - ▶ Reject them; Grow in Christ! (Col 3:9-11)



# Self-Control: Not About You (2Ti 1:6-7)

- ▶ Self-Control {ἐγκράτεια, egkrateia}
  - ▶ You cannot Control Self (Flesh) even after salvation (Ro 7:14-8:8)
  - ▶ More you Control Flesh, stronger it is; grieving the Spirit (Ep 4:30; Col 2:20-23)
  - ▶ Covetousness Controls you leading to violence-degradation-judgment (2Co 5:10; Ja 4:4-10; 2Pe 2:19-22)
- ▶ Only Spirit-Christ Controls Flesh
  - ▶ You are crucified in Christ (Ga 2:20)
  - ▶ Mature *walk* in the Spirit (Ga 5:13-26)
  - ▶ We are to learn humility (Mt 5:2-12)
- ▶ Each decision Builds You: Self-Spirit



# Guard and Embrace: Steps of Maturity

- ▶ Hagiazo Process of Maturation never ends while in this body; that is a fallacy of Satan presented by False Teachers: Christians must *guard* and *embrace*
- ▶ Guard {τηρέω, tēreo} - Imperative or command-prevent from loss
  - ▶ Jude warns believers to guard or protect within themselves that which Spirit has developed via the Hagiazo Process: Love of God in them (1Co 9:25-57; 1Ti 6:20-21; 2Ti 1:8-14)
- ▶ Embrace {προσδέχομαι, prosdechomai} - Dechomai: Receive + Pros: Moving to
  - ▶ Jude uses Middle Voice, similar to Deponent, denoting that receiving is both *doing* and *receiving* the action
  - ▶ Thus, believer **stands** where placed by Christ to guard what he/she has learned, embracing one's growth by the Hagiazo Process (Ep 6:10-14a)
  - ▶ Jude highlights one quality differentiating Saved from Lost; i.e., Mercy (Ro 11:30-32; 1Ti 1:15-17)



# Mercy or Mercilessness: We Received Mercy - Gospel

- ▶ Jude wants Christians to avoid trap *False Jews* and all works-based religionists fall into: **Pride** (Ro 11:11-27)
  - ▶ Lost follow Satan their father to be as God {“*There can be only one!*”} or “*Survival of the Fittest-Evolution*”; all are slave to sin-death for Satan, “...*does not share power...*” (Ge 3:1-5; Is 14:13-14; Ez 28:15-16; Jn 8:44; Ro 6:16-23)
  - ▶ Whether masked as *karma* or *fate* it is without mercy; inherent in sin (Ro 1:29-32)
- ▶ What is mercy {ἔλεος, *eleos*}? Learned only by experience!
  - ▶ *Knowing* misfortune that occurs to others can also occur to you (Ph 2:5-8)
  - ▶ Christ exposed Himself, via Flesh, to same *peirasmoi*, testings, as **we** (He 2:14-18)
  - ▶ Thus, He experientially understands us; willing to give mercy (Ro 5:6-10; He 4:14-16)
- ▶ Mercy is taking *Good News*, Gospel, to others only through people; not angels (Ro 10:8-17; He 2:16; 1Pe 1:10-12)



# Hypomene: We Share Mercy - Gospel

- ▶ Why are Saved left in Fleshly bodies, in Lost world, suffering for Christ?
  - ▶ Christ took on Flesh to die for us; we remain in Flesh to call Lost to His Truth (He 10:5)
  - ▶ We are Hypomene: Left Behind Ones or Standing Where Placed (He 10:35-39)
  - ▶ We who received Christ's mercy share His mercy; this is our mission: Light and Salt (Mt 5:13-16)
- ▶ False Teachers corrupt Gospel message to rob the Lost of Mercy (2Co 2:14-16)
  - ▶ They corrupt the Gospel and point to immature believers as hypocrites whom they influenced to be their partners in preventing salvation (2Co 2:17)
- ▶ Christians, by *lip and life*, are His Gospel messengers
  - ▶ Christ *shares* His glory with us as we live Him before the Lost though they hate us as they hate Him; do not pulled back to Flesh-World to your shame (Ep 5:3-14; 1Pe 4:12-19)