

Knowing God

There is no way man can know God apart from God's own revelation of Himself. He said in Isaiah 65:1 "I revealed myself to those who did not ask for me; I was found by those who did not seek me; to a nation that did not call on my Name, I said, here am I, here am I."

It is God's plan and desire that man should strive to know his creator. He said in Psalm 46:10 "Be still and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth." It is in knowing God that we can truly and accurately exalt Him in our lives.

This Passage gives us two specific commands from God.

- 1. Be still This is a command to be calm and remain calm, to stop fretting and panicking, to let the dust settle before making any move, to wait with great expectation from God.
- 2. Know that I am God This is a command to acknowledge that God is in-charge and that He is in full control of everything. It is also a command challenging us to pursue a greater and clearer understanding of God that will bring us into a higher level of intimacy and fulfillment in our walk/fellowship with Him.

In this study, we will address the THE WHAT, THE WHY, and THE HOW of knowing God.

I. KNOWING GOD DEFINED

A. Know (verb)

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- To perceived directly with the senses or mind; apprehend with clarity and Certainty.
- To be certain of; regard or accept as true beyond doubt
- To have practical understanding of or thorough experience with.
- To firmly secure in the mind or memory.
- To be able to distinguish; recognize
- B. Knowing (adjective)
 - Possessing knowledge or understanding
 - Suggestive of secret or private information
 - Planned; deliberate. (New American Heritage Dictionary – p. 725)
- C. I will define "Knowing God" as the Spiritual Discipline of intentional and diligent pursuit to know according to His revelations.

II. IMPORTANCE OF KNOWING GOD

A. Knowing God Brings Eternal Life

John 14:6 "Jesus answered, I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

John 10:27-28 My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow Me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand.

John 17:2 Now this eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.

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B. Knowing God strengthens us against the adversities of life.

Daniel 11:32 "With flattery he will corrupt those who have violated the covenant, But people who know their God will Firmly resist him."

C. Knowing God delivers us from wrong principles/values in life.

Galatians 4:8-9 "Formerly, when you did not know God, you were slaves to those who by nature are not gods. But now that you know God—or rather are known by God—how is it that you are turning back to those weak and miserable principles? Do you wish to be enslaved by them all over again?"

John 8:31-32 "To the Jews who had believed Him, Jesus said, if you hold on to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will the truth and the truth will set you free."

III. THREE WAYS GOD REVEALED HIMSELF WITH HUMANITY

Deuteronomy 29:29 "The secret things belong to the LORD our God, but the things revealed belong to us and to our children forever, that we may follow all the words of this law."

A. God revealed Himself through His creation. God displayed His power.

Romans 1: 18-20 "The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who suppress the truth by their wickedness, since what maybe known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. For since the creation of the

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world God's invisible qualities – His eternal power and divine nature – have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse."

Acts 14:16-17 "In the past, He let all nations go their own way. Yet He has not left Himself without testimony: He has shown kindness by giving you rain from heaven and crops in their seasons; He provides you with plenty of food and fill your hearts with joy."

Psalm 19:1-4 "The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of His hands. Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they display knowledge. There is no speech or language where there voice is not heard. Their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world."

B. God revealed Himself through His Word. God spoke (recorded in the Bible)

1 Samuel 3:7 "Now Samuel did not know the LORD: The Word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him."

1 Samuel 3:21 "The Lord continued to appear at Shiloh, and there he revealed Himself to Samuel through His Word."

Genesis 12:1-3 "God spoke to Abraham"

Exodus 3:1-154 "God spoke to Moses:

Exodus 20:1-23 "God spoke to the people of Israel"

Hebrews 1:1-2 "God spoke through the Prophets and Jesus Christ."

C. God revealed Himself through His only Begotten Son Jesus Christ. God showed Himself in human flesh.

John 1:1-2 "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning

John 1:14 "The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth."

John 1:18 "No one has ever seen God, but God the One and Only, who is at the Father's side has made Him known."

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, the whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."

Hebrews 1:3 "The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of His being, sustaining all things by His power word. After He had provided purification for sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven."

Colossians 1:15-16 "He (Jesus Christ) is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by Him all things were crated. Things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers our rulers or authorities; all things were created by Him and for Him." Colossians 1:19 "For God was pleased to have all His fullness dwell in Him."

Luke 10:22 "All things have been committed to me by my Father. No one knows who the Son is except the Father, and not one knows who the Father is except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him."

CONCLUSION

Knowing God is the best achievement a person could ever have in this World. Walking with Him is the best adventure one will every experience. The key to this is to grow in our knowledge of God.

Ephesians 1:15 For this reason, ever since I heard about your Faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, ¹⁶ I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. ¹⁷ I keep asking that God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. 18 I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order of this glorious inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹ and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is like the working of his mighty strength, ²⁰ which he exerted in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, ²¹ far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every title that can be given, not only in the present age but also in the one to come.