

## KNOWING GOD

John 14:6-11

## KNOWING GOD

- 1. What does it mean to know God?
- 2. Two Greek words translated Know
  - a. *oikeios* literally "belonging to a house or family, intimate, kindred; to become acquainted with, to understand, perceive, have knowledge of" (Thayer)
  - b. *ginoskos* "To learn, to come to know, to understand" (Thayer)

## KNOWING GOD

- 3. It is important, because:
  - a. To know God is eternal life - **John. 17:3.**
  - b. Those who do not know God are eternally punished - **2 Thessalonians 1:8-9.**
- 4. To know God means to have knowledge of God and to have a relationship with Him.

## I. KNOWING GOD MEANS HAVING A RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM

- A. One can have knowledge about God, yet not know God.
  - 1. **John. 8:19** – They had knowledge of God, but didn't understand & have fellowship with either the Father or the Son!
  - 2. **John. 15:18-21; 16:1-3** – Apostles and saints persecuted because the world didn't "know" the Father.
    - cf. Saul – Had knowledge about God, but didn't "know" God while he was persecuting the church – **1 Timothy 1:12-14.**

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- B. Jesus came to earth to reveal God to man – **John. 1:18.**
  - 1. **Colossians 1:15** – To give man a clear manifestation of God.
  - 2. This is essential, for until one has a knowledge of God, he cannot "know" Him (enter a relationship with Him).

## I. KNOWING GOD MEANS HAVING A RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM

- C. When we know Christ, we know the Father – **John. 14:6-9.**
  - 1. Before we can know Christ (enter relationship with Him), we must learn of Him – **John. 6:45.**

## I. KNOWING GOD MEANS HAVING A RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM

- 2. Likewise, to have a relationship with the Father (know God), we must first learn about Him – cf. **Hebrews 11:6**.
  - a. Through nature we learn His divinity – **Romans 1:20; Acts 14:17**.
  - b. Through revelation we learn His will – **1 Corinthians 2:1, 13**.
- 3. But, learning of God isn't all there is to knowing Him – **Romans 1:21-22**.

## II. TO KNOW GOD MEANS TO HAVE AN UNDERSTANDING OF GOD

- A. When we obey God we know God – **2 Thessalonians 1:8; 1 John 2:3-6**.
  - 1. **1 John 2:3** – Keep commandments. **John 14:23** – Relationship formed.
  - 2. **1 John 2:5** – Keep word – Love of God in our lives.
  - 3. **1 John 2:6** – In fellowship with God when we walk as Christ did.

## II. TO KNOW GOD MEANS TO HAVE AN UNDERSTANDING OF GOD

- B. When one knows God he accepts the apostles' teachings – **1 John 4:6**.
  - 1. Contradiction to say we are pleasing God if we are rejecting the inspired message! – **2 John 9**
  - 2. NT (apostles' writings) instructs us how to walk (live) as Christ walked (lived) – **1 John 1:3-4; 2:5-6**.

## II. TO KNOW GOD MEANS TO HAVE AN UNDERSTANDING OF GOD

- C. To know God means to be in Christ – **1 John 5:20**.
  - 1. Can not know God and reject His Son Jesus Christ.
  - 2. **Galatians 3:26-27** – Be baptized into Christ through faith.

## III. IN THIS RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD, WE SHOULD KNOW THAT:

- A. God knows us.
  - 1. **Psalms 139:1-4** – God is acquainted with everything about us (our actions, thoughts, words).
  - 2. **Galatians 4:8-9** – In Christ, He recognizes us as His children (**Galatians 4:5**).
- B. God loves us – **1 John 4:9-10**.
  - 1. **1 John 4:7-8** – Therefore, we must love one another in the same way to know God!

## CONCLUSION

- 1. Do you know God? Perhaps you know about God, but do not really know Him (have a relationship with Him).
- 2. Change that right now by obeying the gospel of Christ in faith and allowing God to come into your life (**Galatians 3:26-27**).