

KNOWING GOD

I. The privilege of knowing God and being known by Him

- A. That God would acknowledge man! (Psalm 8:3-4/Nahum 1:7/1 Cor.8:3/Gal.4:9/Matt.7:23)
- B. Eternal Life is comes by knowing God (John 17:3/ Jer.9:23-24/2 Pet.1:2-3/2:20)
- C. Neglect of this opportunity is an affront to God (Rom.1:18-21)

II. The disaster of a low view of God

- A. You will become like the God you worship (Psalm 115:3-8/ 2 Cor.3:18)
- B. Satan's first and continuing ploy: to befuddle people's view of God (Gen.3/2 Cor.4:3-6/10:4-5)

III. Degrees of knowledge of God (Col.1:9-10/2 Peter 3:18) [Illustrated by the Tabernacle—Psalm 63:2]

- A. Knowledge by natural inference—the outer court (Rom.1:18-21/Acts 14:17/17:26-27)
- B. Revealed knowledge obtained by hearsay—the holy place (2 Chron.30:22/Matt.7:22-23)
- C. Direct knowledge through communion with God—the holy of holies (Ex.25:22/Job 42:5)

IV. Apprehending the knowledge of God (Hosea 6:3)

- A. The search for the invisible God (Psalm 27:8-9/ Jer.29:13/Prov.2:1-5)
- B. God's self-disclosure (1 Cor. 2:7-10/ John 14:21-23/ Gen.28:16)
- C. God-given "receiver" in the heart (Jer.24:7/31:31-34)
- D. The role of the Scriptures (John 5:39-40, 46-47)
 - 1. Need to know "what" we worship [i.e. attributes of God] (John 4:22/Matt.22:29)
 - 2. Need to know "who" we have trusted [i.e. character of God] (2 Tim.1:12)
- E. The connection between likeness to relational knowledge (Ps.18:26/1 John 3:2/1:3-7/2:6)
- F. Recognizing God:
 - 1. In people
 - a. in their reproofs (2 Sam.16:7-10)
 - b. in their needs (Matt. 25:40)
 - c. in their authority (John 13:20/Eph.5:22/6:5)
 - 2. In circumstances (Gen. 50:20)

- a. in answered prayers (*Gen. 24:27*)
- b. in deliverances (*Dan.3, 6*)
- c. in comforts (*2 Cor.1:3-5/7:6*)
- d. in judgments (*Psalm 9:16*)

3. In His characteristic actions (*John 20:14-16/21:6-7/Luke 24:30-35*)

V. Conscious communion with God

A. God's initiative in self-revelation (*Matt.11:27/1 Cor.2:7-11/Eph.1:17-19*)

B. Friendship with God: more than mere acquaintance (*John 15:13-15*)

C. Conjugal intimacy (*Eph.5:31-32/ Gen.1:28/4:1*)

D. Devoting time (*Psalm 1:2/119:62, 164/Mark 1:35-38*)

E. Fellowship in suffering (*Phil.3:10/ 2 Cor.1:3-5, 9*)