

Do YOU know God?

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Main Scripture: 1 John 2: 3-11

Supporting Scriptures: Deuteronomy 18:15; John 3: 13; John 1: 1; John 3: 16; John 5:38; Colossians 2:9; 1 Timothy 3:16; Hebrews 1:3; John 7: 16-17 John 15: 12-14; Revelation 22: 14; Romans 6:23; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Psalm 14: 1; Deuteronomy 6:4-5; Matthew 22:40; Matthew 5: 43-45

Notes:

We have tonight a question: do you know God?

John gives us the proof of any believer, the proof that one really knows God. It gives us 7 tests in verses 3-11

Test number One:

1. **Keeping God's commandments** - do we keep Gods commandments?

Many persons will confess that they know God and have an image of who God is and how he is to be worshipped and how one relates to him. They believe it is possible to know Him and still do what they want to do. They are still attached to the pleasures of this world and personal desires and still confess that they know God. Let's examine if what we think about God, is real.

The first test is keeping Gods commandments -

Deuteronomy 18:15 - the prophet greater than Moses that we must listen to. Anyone who does not listen to him we have to speak to God himself.

we are liars if we say we love God and don't obey God's commandments. - The challenge is that God is a spirit, how can man (who is physical) know God. How can we get into the spiritual realm to know God.

Big questions

If God exists and has created me how can I know him and what purpose did he create me for?

How can I know Him when I am trapped in the physical?

Only Jesus - the revelation of God came from the Spiritual realm to the physical realm - John 3: 13 | John 1: 1

Logos - greek word as thought and its abstract

Memraha - hebrew word - cant have thought without thinker

Logos Versus memraha - the thoughts is the thinker and the thinker is the thought.

In the beginning, was a thought and a thought was a thinker (John 1: 1)

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Jesus Christ is the revelation of God in flesh everything that we need to know about God is revealed in Jesus. The one that stepped out of the spiritual to the physical is Jesus. So for us to know God is to face Jesus. It is impossible to know God outside of Jesus Christ.

What was Jesus' purpose - he was sent into the world to make God known.

John 3: 16; John 5:38; Colossians 2:9; 1Timothy 3:16; Hebrews 1:3

If we are to know God we have to know Jesus Christ. Not what men say about him. Not someone's opinion of who he is but what he says to men. Everything that he says is an opening for Man to be reconciled to God.

1 John 2: 3 - We can certain we know him by keeping his commands

BUT WHAT ARE HIS COMMANDS?

- Believe in the name of Jesus Christ - placing your trust in him
- Love one another as he commanded us.

Love one another

John 7: 16-17; John 8:31; John 8:51

Do I Love everyone? --"I don't hate him I just don't like him" question is do you love him?
if we criticize, backbite, steal, speak evil of our brother then we don't love our brother, and if we don't love we don't know God. Why? Because God is Love.

Many people profess to know God but have nothing to do with his commandments.

Think about your experience now:

Do you believe in the name of Jesus Christ?

DO I love people as Christ commands me to love?

to Know Him is to have an experience with Him. To believe in His name means one is sold out/surrendered to the Lord.

The only way a person can know God is to follow Jesus Christ - to walk in fellowship with God.

Those of us who are married will understand that telling our partners that we love them and not show it means nothing.

Love is only expressed in obedience anything outside of that shows a lack of love and respect.

Matthew 7: 25 shows someone who Loves God - who is grounded and is built on the word of God.

Difference with hearers only and doers - Matthew 7: 25 - 27

There is a test for everyone who professes that they love God.

Do you want to do His will? Know the doctrine - John 7: 17; John 15:12-14

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If you obey his commands are blessed and have a right to the tree of Life - Revelation 22: 14

the opposite is also true that those who do not do his commandments are under a curse.

If Jesus is sent to reveal to us what God requires by seeking the will of God. In other words, he is the pattern to copy if we want to know God.

This means eternal life or eternal death has everything to do with Jesus Christ. If I am to know God I must study the life of Jesus because everything he did there was a purpose behind it. Everything he said was for a purpose and was to reveal to each of us what the mind of God is to humanity and how mankind can have an encounter with God.

How do you define darkness? - darkness is the absence of Light - Jesus says I am the light of the world. Where Jesus is not shining then there is darkness. When he came into this world light came. When light refuses to shine darkness appears and where light is the darkness is removed.

John says in HIM [Jesus] was life and His life was the light of men. There is no escape from the darkness outside of Jesus. Doesn't matter how good we think we are we are trapped in the darkness outside of Jesus. There is one who has created all of us for a specific purpose. What we must understand is that man is not totally physical. There is something given to man that came from the spiritual and that's why we are attached to a sense of worship whether we worship ourselves or another idol.

If it is we are so powerful how is it that we can not conquer death?

Jesus came to redeem us because we were all trapped in darkness. He went to a cross where he was crucified and died and told his disciples that he lays down his life to take it up again. The mystery of Him dying is that it's different from our death. The wages of sin is death, (Romans 6: 23) but he who knew no sin took our sorrows and sin for us (2 Corinthians 5:21) to free us from that trap. He went to the grave and resurrected on the third day seen by many and returned to heaven

if one can believe there is no God then his faith is established in nothing - Psalm 14: 1

the big bang theory holds no weight to the ten utterances that created the entire universe. - One God spoke.

Do you know him?

One God - Deuteronomy 6:4-5

Questions

Matthew 5: 43-45 - Guidelines to God's love. We must love our enemies and bad people. There is no selection in Love or who I show love to. God is love and then now love in me will flow from in me to the dark world. I love those who are dirty also. Jesus healed the leper, the rest of society removed themselves from the leper - love has no boundaries

Love you from a distance? - not scriptural

if someone is taking advantage of you to hurt you it would be foolish to remain in harm's way.

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Love knows no evil and is kind - it means that if we keep our minds on love it will challenge us even when we are weak. When the flesh is saying don't talk to him love will whisper that's not the way.

what bout when you are a new disciple and you need space to grow?

-Jesus took his disciples away to a mountain to teach his disciples (Matthew 5:1--). Sometimes you need time away with God to have his word download more into you.

Questions for next week:

If there are allowances for physical protection would it be fair to say there is emotional protection where we love but also need to protect ourselves?