

An open, aged book with a dark cover and yellowed pages. The text is overlaid on the book's spine and pages.

# KNOWING GOD

THE HIGHEST PRIORITY IN LIFE

**The biblical concept of knowing God**

Philippians 3:10

# The biblical concept of knowing God

- Knowing God is a matter of **personal dealing** – if you want to know someone, you must try to deal with them directly (no intermediary).
- Knowing God is a matter of **personal involvement** – mind, will and feeling.
- Knowing God is a matter of **grace**. God makes friends with us, not the other way round.

Knowing God  
is not a  
joke... but a  
matter of  
personal  
dealing and  
involvement  
with God.

- Deuteronomy 4:29
- Jeremiah 29:13
- Matthew 7:7-9
- Acts 17:24-28

God desires  
that we  
draw near to  
Him

- James 4:8; Psalms 42:1-2;  
84:2

- But even drawing near to God  
requires some preparation on  
our part

Exodus 19:22; Leviticus  
10:1-10; Isaiah 29:13; Hebrews  
10:22

# Knowing God involves

- Learning about God
- Inspection and exploration – of God's creation
- Revealed secrets or revelation of God
- Experience or prior acquaintance
- Knowing God through His revealed names.

# Learning about God

- We need to make effort to learn about God from the scriptures – what has been written about the One we want to know.
  - **2 Tim. 3:16** <sup>16</sup> All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, <sup>17</sup> that the man of God<sup>[a]</sup> may be complete, equipped for every good work.  
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- The witness of the scriptures **John 5:39-47; Luke 16:27-31**

# Inspection and exploration of God's creation.

- God is revealed in what He has created... nature itself reveals God and His attributes.
  - **Rom 1:20-22** <sup>20</sup>For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities-his eternal power and divine nature-have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse. <sup>21</sup>For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. <sup>22</sup>Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools..
  - **Job 12:7-12; Ps 19:1-3**

# Revealed secrets

- Revealed secrets – people and God keep secrets- you do not know all that is in someone’s heart.
- Thus, the quality and extent of knowing depends more on them than on us. It is them who decide whether we are going to know them or not.
- God reveals only what He wants us to know about him a little at a time. **Deut. 29:29; Prov 25:2; Matt 13:11; Acts 17:26-27; 1 Cor 2:6-15**



Experience or prior acquaintance

- Experience or prior acquaintance – one cannot know another person until one knows not merely his/her past history but how he/she is likely to react or behave under specific circumstances. **1 Sam 3:1-11; Deut. 32:7; Isaiah 8:20; Job 42:1-6**
- Knowing God through His names ...

# Knowing God through his names

- In biblical days, a Hebrew person's name represented his character or described his nature. People's names gave insight into what they were like.
- Similarly, biblical names, titles, and descriptions of God identify how men and women personally came to know God. The scripture is the record of God's revelation of Himself to people. Each of the names of God represents a different aspect of His nature.
- How many of the names of God do you know? When God reveals His nature in a new way, it is always for a purpose... A relationship!