

09 10 22

Knowledge of God Pt 2 Knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ

This is our second teaching on the topic of the knowledge of God. Last week we established three points – (i) The Lord is a God of knowledge, (ii) God desires His children to have knowledge of Him, and (iii) the children of Israel were destroyed for lack of knowledge of God. This week we establish three points– (i) There is an excellency of knowledge of Christ, and there is another Jesus, (ii) we pray that God would give unto our brethren the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, and (iii) for those who have no knowledge of Jesus there is eternal punishment.

It is from our search of the scriptures that we establish our three points–

1. There is an excellency of knowledge of Christ, and there is another Jesus

“Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ” (Phil.3: 8)– c.f.: 2 Cor 11:4– “For if he that cometh preacheth another Jesus, whom we have not preached...ye might well bear with him”.

2. We pray that God would give unto our brethren the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him

“Cease not to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers; [17] That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him: [18] The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints” (Eph.1: 16–18).

3. For those who have no knowledge of Jesus there is punishment

“In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: [9] Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord...” (2 Thes.1:8, 9).

Illustration

When Karen and I were worshipping at a Messianic group we noticed that some had come out of Roman Catholicism, others from the Presbyterian church and others out of the Jehovah Witnesses (JW). And the Roman Catholics and JW both may have had a zeal for God, but it would have been without knowledge (similar to the Jew– Rom.10: 2). And when we lack knowledge of Christ we are prone to being tossed about with every wind of doctrine, by the cunning craftiness of men (Eph.4: 14).

Question of the scriptures

It is all very well to have the excellency of the knowledge of Jesus Christ but how do we not allow that knowledge to puff us up (1Cor.8: 1)?

Answers from the scriptures

When our knowledge is not used to build us up in front of others but rather when–

* our knowledge of God enables us to shine as lights in the darkness –2 Cor.4: 6.

* we manifest knowledge of God as a savour of Christ– 2 Cor.2: 14

* as a result of knowledge we grow in grace– 2 Pet.3: 18

Let us have an excellency of knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ that helps us to grow in the grace of Christ, and shine as lights in the darkness! Amen!