



## INTRODUCTION • KNOWING GOD

1. What do we mean when we use the phrase “knowing God”? Is it an emotion, an intellectual experience?
  - A. There seems to be a great difference between knowing *about* God and knowing Him on a deeply personal level -- knowing His Personality and His ways. There is also a difference between God’s ways and His acts. Many people see and experience His acts (miracles, etc.), yet, it’s better to know His ways and Personality. (Matthew 7:20-23)
    - Jeremiah 9:23-24 *This is what the LORD says: “Let not the wise man boast of his wisdom or the strong man boast of his strength or the rich man boast of his riches, but let him who boasts boast about this: that he understands and knows me, that I am the LORD, who exercises kindness, justice and righteousness on earth, for in these I delight,” declares the LORD.* (Philippians 3:1-16)
  - B. To the Greeks, to know something meant you understood it in your mind. It was an academic process. In contrast, for a Hebrew person, knowing something meant that you experienced it.
    - Psalm 103:7 *He made known His ways (course of life, motivation) to Moses, His acts (exploits) to the children of Israel.*
  - C. To know God we must first believe that God is real and that He lovingly invites us to know Him intimately.
    - John 3:3-9, 16 *...unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.*
    - Hebrews 11:6 *But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.*
2. Read Philippians 3:2-16...
  - A. What did Paul do in order to know Christ? (Verses 7-8, 13-14)
  - B. Describe Paul’s attitude in this portion of Scripture.
  - C. What are you willing to let go of to have that same intimate relationship with God?

## UNDERSTANDING GOD’S ATTRIBUTES

1. His \_\_\_\_\_ Attributes, those characteristics only He possesses. God is...

- A. SELF EXISTENT -- He is Jehovah, the absolute Source of all life and the Eternal Living God. God is not dependent on anything outside of Himself. He is Self-Existent! (Exodus 3:13-15; John 5:26; Colossians 1:15-17)
  - B. ETERNAL -- God has always existed and will forever exist! He is outside time as we know it. (Exodus 3:13-15; Psalm 90:2; John 8:58; 1 Timothy 1:17)
  - C. IMMUTABLE -- He does not change. Ever! (1 Kings 8:56; Malachi 3:6; James 1:17; Hebrews 13:8)
  - D. OMNIPRESENT -- He is everywhere at the same time. God is present in all time and space, He is everywhere and in every moment, past, present and future. (Jeremiah 23:23-24; Psalm 139:1-12; Matthew 28:20; Colossians 1:17)
  - E. OMNISCIENT -- God knows all things and has all knowledge. As Creator of the heavens and the earth, He knows all things because He created all things, visible or invisible. (Psalm 139:1-4, 16; Acts 5:1-11; Ephesians 3:9-11; Colossians 1:16)
  - F. OMNIPOTENT -- He is all-Powerful. As with the attributes of Omniscience and Omnipresence, it follows that, if God is Infinite, and if He is Sovereign, then He is also Omnipotent. He has all power over all things at all times and in all ways. (Jeremiah 32:17, 27; Isaiah 40:15; Daniel 4:35; Matthew 19:26)
  - G. SOVEREIGN -- He is the Supreme Authority over all of creation. (Malachi 1:6; Romans 10-11; Ephesians 1:4-5; Colossians 1:15-18)
    - Calvinism and Arminianism are two systems of THEOLOGY that attempt to explain the relationship between God's sovereignty and man's responsibility concerning salvation. One view holds that God elects or chooses individuals for salvation based entirely on His will, not the worthiness or unworthiness of the individual. The other states that God elects individuals to salvation based on His fore-knowledge.
2. His \_\_\_\_\_ Attributes are those He shares with us to a limited degree, and which deal with character and conduct. God is...
- A. HOLY (Leviticus 11:44-45; Isaiah 6:1-5) -- Both the Hebrew (Quadosh) and Greek (Hagios) define Holy as that which belongs to and is reserved for God and anything that pertains to Him, pure, free from defilement or contamination of sin, and worthy of God.
    - In the New Testament the quality of Holiness emphasizes the inward purity and separation from the world. (2 Corinthians 7:1; 1 Peter 1:15-16; Hebrews 12:10-11)
  - B. RIGHTEOUS (Genesis 18:25; Deuteronomy 32:4; Romans 3:25-26) -- The Hebrew word is "Tsedek," meaning Rightness, Straightness, Justice of a judge and a King. God is Right in punishing the wicked, avenging, delivering, or rewarding the righteous.
  - C. LOVE (1 John 4:8-11, 16) -- In Exodus 34:6-7 we see that God's Attributes can be summed up in Holiness and Love. In Deuteronomy 7:6-8 God expresses His love based upon His Covenant with Israel.
  - D. God is TRUTH (John 1:14, 14:6; Titus 1:2) -- His Word is Truth. It is the true revelation of His Nature, His will for mankind, and His plan of salvation. (Psalm 119:89; John 17:17)

Because God is True, He is faithful to keep all His promises. (Numbers 23:19-20; Joshua 23:14)

## THE NAMES OF GOD IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

Exodus 3:13-15 *God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: I AM has sent me to you." God also said to Moses, "Say to the Israelites, The LORD, the God of your fathers — the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob — has sent me to you. This is My Name forever, the Name by which I am to be remembered from generation to generation."*



Proverbs 18:10 *The Name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous run to it and are safe (set on high).*

1. ELOHIM God, our Mighty Creator, Covenant God (Throughout Genesis 1 and the Old Testament).
2. EL SHADDAI The Mighty God. (Genesis 17:1-2 and throughout the Old Testament)
3. ADONAI The Lord our Master. (Genesis 15:1-8; Daniel 9:3-19; Malachi 1:6)
4. EL ELYON The Supreme, Most High God. (Genesis 14:22; Daniel 4:34-35)
5. EL OLAM The Everlasting, Eternal God. (Genesis 21:33)
6. JEHOVAH LORD, the Self-Existent, Righteous and Loving God throughout the Old Testament (Exodus 6:2-3).
7. JEHOVAH-Jireh The LORD our Provider. (Genesis 22:1-9)
8. JEHOVAH-Rophe The LORD our Healer. (Exodus 15:22-27)
9. JEHOVAH-Nissi The LORD our Banner. (Exodus 17:8-16)
10. JEHOVAH-Sabaoth The LORD of Hosts. (1 Samuel 17:45; Haggai 2:4-9, 23)
11. JEHOVAH-M'Kaddesh The LORD our Sanctifier. (Leviticus 20:8)
12. JEHOVAH-Shalom The LORD our Peace. (Judges 6:1-24)
13. JEHOVAH-Tsidkenu The LORD our Righteousness. (Jeremiah 23:5-6)
14. JEHOVAH-Rohi The LORD our Shepherd. (Psalm 23)
15. JEHOVAH-Shammah The LORD is There. (Ezekiel 48:35)

## PRAYING THE NAMES OF GOD IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

Matthew 6:9 *Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your Name,...*

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Praise Him for the forgiveness of sin and deliverance from its dominion.

- A. Jehovah-Tsidkenu, the Lord our Righteousness.
  - Romans 6:23; 1 John 1:5-10; Romans 5:17; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Colossians 1:13-14
- B. Jehovah-M'Kaddesh, the Lord who Sanctifies us.
  - John 17:17-18; Romans 6:17-18; Romans 12:1-2; 2 Corinthians 3:18; 1 Peter 1:13-16; 2 Peter 1:4;



2. \_\_\_\_\_ Praise Him for the provision of Eternal Life, healing and the things we need.
  - A. Jehovah - Jireh, the Lord who Provides
  - B. Jehovah - Rophe, the Lord who Heals.
  - C. El-Shadai, the Lord who sustains and nourishes.
3. The Fulness of the \_\_\_\_\_ Praise Him for the fullness of the Holy Spirit.
  - A. Jehovah-Shalom, the Lord Our Peace.
    - Peace with God - Romans 5:1-8; Peace of God - John 14:27, 16:33; Philippians 4:6-7; The God of Peace - Romans 16:20; Philippians 4:9; 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24; Hebrews 14:20
  - B. Jehovah-Shammah, The Lord Who Is There.
    - Deuteronomy 31:6, 8; Joshua 1:5; Romans 8:10-11, 38-39
4. \_\_\_\_\_ Praise Him for Victory Over all things!
  - A. Jehovah - Nissi, The Lord Our Banner
  - B. Jehovah - Rohi, The Lord Our Shepherd

## QUOTES

In the last analysis, what matters supremely, is not, the fact that I know God, but the larger fact which underlies it — the fact that he knows me. I am graven on the palms of his hands (Isaiah 49:16). I am never out of his mind. All my knowledge of him depends on his sustained initiative in knowing me. I know him because he first knew me, and continues to know me. He knows me as a friend, one who loves me; and there is no moment when his eye is off me, or his attention distracted from me, and no moment, therefore, when his care falters... — *J.I. Packer*

While it is good that we seek to know the Holy One, it is probably not so good to presume that we ever complete the task. — *Dietrich Bonhoeffer*

## SUGGESTED READING

“God’s Final Answer,” by Harold E. Helms

“Experiencing God,” by Henry Blackaby

## ANSWERS

Absolute, Moral, Sin, Provision, Spirit, Victory