**Does God Know You?**

**Introduction**

1. God is all knowing – **Psalm 139:1-4**
2. Therefore, the most terrifying words to hear from Him – **Matthew 7:23**
3. To know God is important – **Acts 17:22-23** (Paul thought it important that the Athenians know Him)
4. To be known by God is even more important – **Isaiah 19:19-21, 24-25** – Egypt will know the Lord, the Lord will know Egypt (“Egypt My people”)
5. Some think they know God, but their knowledge isn’t as it should be, and God doesn’t know them – **1 Corinthians 8:1-3** (NOTE: written to, and about, Christians)
6. Does God know you? (fellowship, approval, identification, etc.)
7. God knows me:
8. If I Know God
	1. Jesus using illustration (allegory) of being the Shepherd of the sheep – **John 10:3-4, 14, 27** – He knows His sheep; His sheep are those who know Him.
		1. **(vv. 3-4)** – hear/know His voice, follow Him.
		2. **(v. 27)** – hear voice, follow Him.
		3. Application to Jesus and Father – **(vv. 15, 17-18)** – relationship Shepherd retains with sheep like that which Jesus and His Father have.
			1. **(v. 15)** – Father knows Him BECAUSE HE KNOWS THE FATHER – demonstrated by laying life down for sheep (Knows this is Father’s will, and sheep’s need).
			2. **(vv. 17-18)** – ***“This command I have received from My Father”*** – heard Father and followed/obeyed His will – **(v. 17)** – therefore Father knows and loves Him **(v. 15).**
		4. **(v. 16)** – concerning Gentiles – hear voice, one shepherd – **cf. Ezekiel 37:24** – hearing and obeying/following.
		5. Some don’t believe/follow/obey because not His sheep – **(vv. 24-26)** – not His sheep because don’t hear/know voice **(v. 4).**
	2. Who comes to/believes/follows Jesus? – **John 6:44-45** – Father draws by teaching, being heard, then come (**v. 35** – ***“come”*** and ***“believe”***).
		1. **NOTE: Taught by God = taught by Jesus (John 7:16-18 – His doctrine is the Father’s).**
		2. Not simply hearing, knowing, believing (mere assent) – **(vv. 27, 35, 48, 51, 53-56)** – obeying His words, consuming Him through obedient faith (Similar language **– John 14:20-21, 23** – keep commandments/word).
	3. No obedience, not known **– John 8:31-32, 37-38, 42-47** – known by true father (devil), hear his desires and do them.
		1. Lawlessness – **Matthew 7:23** – never knew you.
	4. **1 John 2:3-6, 24-29** – Knowing Him by obedience to things heard by Him through revelation.
9. If I Love God
	1. Concerning the liberty of eating meats sacrificed to idols – **1 Corinthians 8:1-3** – mere factual knowledge, but not intimate knowledge of God/Christ, not love.
		1. Knowledge **(v. 1)** – that there are no other gods, and food has no significance in itself – **(vv. 4-6, 8)**
			1. Puffs up – i.e. by itself – **cf. Galatians 5:13-15** – abusing liberty to the devouring of others.
			2. **(v. 2)** – Actions discussed in context show their knowledge is shallow.
		2. Knowledge as he ought to know – **(v. 3)** – purpose is loving God.
			1. **(v. 1)** – love edifies – i.e. does that which builds another up.
			2. Flowing out of love for God is love for His children – **cf. 1 Peter 1:22** – ***“in”*** (*eis* – to or into) – ***“unto unfeigned love of the brethren” (ASV), “for a sincere love of the brethren” (NASB)*** (**cf. 1 John 4:20-21** – love God, must love brother)
			3. Contextual application – **(vv. 7, 9-13)** – weak conscience, liberty a stumbling block, love for brother leads to sacrificing liberty.
			4. ***“this one is known by Him” (v. 3)***
	2. Purpose of hearing, knowing, following word/commandment is love – **1 Timothy 1:5**
		1. **Cf. Matthew 22:36-40** – for God and neighbor.
		2. From pure heart (not holding to sin), good conscience (right before Him), sincere faith (unhypocritical).
		3. **(vv. 8-11)** – leading people away from things offensive to God and others.
		4. **Not mere intellectual practice, but deliberation from the basis of truth for the glory of God, and well-being of others.**
	3. **Philippians 1:9-11** – intelligent, thoughtful, intentional love which seeks to exhibit Christ to the fullest degree possible in any given situation.
		1. Knowledge – intelligent.
		2. Discernment – calculated – based on particular circumstances.
		3. Approve excellent – not just “is it lawful,” but “is it helpful” (**cf. 1 Corinthians 10:23**)
		4. Sincere w/out offense – pure, not guilty.
		5. Fruits of righteousness by Christ – fruitful.
		6. To glory/praise of God – ultimate goal (**cf. 1 Corinthians 10:31**).
	4. **God knows the one whose service dives below the surface of rote practice and into the depths of reflecting/imitating the character of God in all that we do.**
10. If I am Faithful to God
	1. **2 Timothy 2:19** – God knows those who are His.
		1. Seal – *sphragis* – that which confirms or authenticates (BDAG)
			1. Not for God, but for us.
		2. **(v. 19b)** – is included in this ***“seal”*** – depart
	2. Context:
		1. Share in gospel suffering – **2 Timothy 1:8**
			1. Not ashamed of testimony – shown by holding fast no matter the consequences.
			2. **(v. 10)** – Through gospel – death abolished, life and immortality offered.
		2. Hold fast pattern – **2 Timothy 1:13**
			1. Some have turned from Paul and truth – **2 Timothy 1:15**
		3. Stand strong in the grace – **2 Timothy 2:1 (cf. Titus 2:11-12** – that teaches)
		4. Remain faithful, He cannot deny self – **2 Timothy 2:8-13** – don’t let threat deter you from standing in truth – Jesus will not waver, you must not either.
	3. ***“Nevertheless” (v. 19)***:
		1. **(v. 14)** – truth is focus, not worthless words.
		2. **(v. 15)** – Be diligent to handle word accurately – “***handling aright the word of truth.” (ASV)***
			1. **(v. 16)** – avoid partaking in matters not associated w/ truth – leads to ungodliness. **(cf. 1 Timothy 3:15-16** – mystery of godliness, gospel)
		3. **(vv. 17-18)** – specific instance of some giving over to these things, and such leading to departure from truth, and leading others to apostatize.
			1. ***“words to no profit,” “profane and idle babblings”*** – matters not seated in truth (**cf. 2 Timothy 3:16-17** – opposite being “profitable.”)
			2. End in blatant error.
			3. **1 Timothy 1:19-20** – rejected faith (not desiring/seeking simple truth, **Romans 10:17**; rather, **1 Timothy 1:4, 6-8**), rejected good conscience (**1 Timothy 4:2**), made shipwreck of ***“the faith”*** (wrecked the truth – **cf. 2 Peter 3:16** – ***“twist”).***
		4. ***“Nevertheless” (v. 19***):
			1. Solid foundation – **Ephesians 2:19-22** – truth (apostles, prophets, Christ) – of building/temple of God (**cf. 1 Timothy 3:15** – house, church of God).
			2. Stands – does not change/move regardless of what others do **(vv. 13, 17-18).**
			3. Those who are His? – on solid foundation of truth (**cf. Matthew 7:21-27** – stand, founded; **Psalm 1:5-6** – Lord knows).
			4. Name Christ? – depart from iniquity (**cf. 2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1** – depart from iniquity, and the iniquitous; **2 John 9-11)**
			5. **(vv. 20-21)** – make self vessel for honor**. (v. 19** – God knows, can’t fool Him.)
	4. Not mere sincere effort in following/loving God, but actually being true to Him. (All overlap – if following/loving then true to Him)
		1. Some deceive self – don’t need to be right in all things if sincerely seeking to love God.
		2. Cannot be wrong, and right with God.

**Conclusion**

1. Our goal in life should be to stand recognized and accepted before our Creator.
2. There are many who claim to know God, but they don’t really, and God doesn’t know them.
3. Others claim to know God, and to a certain degree do, but God does not know them.
4. Does God know you?