

“That I May Know Him”

THE BIBLE USES VARIOUS PARTS OF THE INFINITIVE “TO KNOW” QUITE FREQUENTLY. WHEN WE SEE THE TERM USED IN THE CONTEXT OF A HUSBAND “KNEW” HIS WIFE, NOT VERY LONG AFTERWARDS WE SEE A BIRTH COME FORTH. WELL, WHEN PAUL USES THE PHRASE - - “THAT I MAY KNOW HIM,” IT MEANS THAT PAUL DESIRED A PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP AND INTIMACY WITH CHRIST JESUS WHICH COMES FORTH THROUGH INTIMATE FELLOWSHIP WITH GOD THE FATHER, CHRIST, OUR LORD, BEING LED EXCLUSIVELY BY THE HOLY GHOST. WHEN THIS TYPE OF FELLOWSHIP TAKES PLACE, (MY GOD, MY GOD), IT RESULTS IN REVELATION KNOWLEDGE OF GOD BEING RECEIVED IN OUR SPIRITS.

THEREFORE, THE TERM “KNOW” MEANS INTIMACY - WHICH MEANS TO BIRTH!

Here are a few examples before we get into the main text:

Genesis 3:6-12

6. And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food (**lust of the flesh**), and that it was pleasant to the eyes (**lust of the eyes**), and a tree to be desired to make one wise (**pride of life**), she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat. (I John 2:16)

7. And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.

8. And they heard the voice of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God amongst the trees of the garden.

9. And the Lord God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou?

10. And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.

11. And he said, Who told thee that thou wast naked? Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat?

The Key to this Knowledge:

Colossians 2:21 **Touch not; taste not; handle not;**

12. And the man said, The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat. **(Poor Excuse!)**

Genesis 4:1,17,25

1. And **Adam knew Eve** his wife; and **she conceived**, and bare Cain, and said, I have gotten a man from the Lord.
17. And **Cain knew his wife**; and **she conceived**, and bare Enoch: and he builded a city, and called the name of the city, after the name of his son, Enoch.
25. And **Adam knew his wife again**; and **she bare a son**, and called his name Seth: For God, said she, hath appointed me another seed instead of Abel, whom Cain slew.

Finally, in Matthew 1:18-25

18. Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost.
19. Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a publick example, was minded to put her away privily.
20. But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost.
21. And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.
22. Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying,
23. Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.
24. Then Joseph being raised from sleep did as the angel of the Lord had bidden him, and took unto him his wife:
25. And **knew her not till she had brought forth** her firstborn son: and he called his name **JESUS**.

I. CENTRAL PASSAGE (PAUL'S RECAP OF HIS LIFE)

Philippians 3:1-21

Let's Start with verse one and read through verse twenty-one.

1. Finally, my brethren, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things to you, to me indeed is not grievous, but for you it is safe.

2. Beware of **dogs**, beware of evil workers, beware of the **concision**.

☐ "Dogs = false prophets

Here's an example of what the Bible calls a dog:

Deuteronomy 13:1-5

1. *If there arise among you a prophet, or a dreamer of dreams, and giveth thee a sign or a wonder, and*

2. *And the sign or the wonder come to pass, whereof he spake unto thee, saying, Let us go after other gods, which thou hast not known, and let us serve them;*

3. *Thou shalt not hearken unto the words of that prophet, or that dreamer of dreams: for the Lord your God proveth you, to know whether ye love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul.*

4. Ye shall walk after the Lord your God, and fear him, and keep his commandments, and obey his voice, and ye shall serve him, and cleave unto him.

5. *And that prophet, or that dreamer of dreams, shall be put to death; because he hath spoken to turn you away from the Lord your God, which brought you out of the land of Egypt, and redeemed you out of the house of bondage, to thrust thee out of the way which the Lord thy God commanded thee to walk in. So shalt thou put the evil away from the midst of thee. (We ought to be grateful that we are living in the "Grace Dispensation").*

☐ "Concision = those who were zealots for circumcision"

Back To The Text...

3. For we are the circumcision, which worship God in the spirit, and rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh.

4. Though I might also have confidence in the flesh. If any other man thinketh that he hath whereof he might trust in the flesh, I more:

5. Circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, an Hebrew of the Hebrews; as touching the law, a Pharisee;

6. Concerning zeal, persecuting the church; touching the righteousness which is in the law, blameless.

7. But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ.

8. 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,

9. And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith:

10. *That I may know him*, and the **power of his resurrection**, and the **fellowship of his sufferings**, being made conformable unto his death;

11. If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead.

12. Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus.

13. Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,

14. I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

15. Let us therefore, as many as be perfect, be thus minded: and if in any thing ye be otherwise minded, God shall reveal even this unto you.

16. Nevertheless, whereto we have already attained, let us walk by the same rule, let us mind the same thing.

17. Brethren, be followers together of me, and mark them which walk so as ye have us for an ensample.

18. (For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ:

19. Whose end is destruction, whose God is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame, who mind earthly things.)

20. For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ:

21. Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.

II. HOW TO RECOGNIZE THOSE THAT KNOW HIM...

1 John 2:3-6

3. And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments.

4. He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

5. But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him.

6. He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked.

Don't be found a liar who professes to know him and yet does not keep his commandments. Do you know him? Or shall I rephrase; do you want to know him?

Prayer:

Father, give me a heart to know You and to know your son Lord Jesus Christ in the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of his suffering, also to know the abiding presence of your Holy Spirit who lives within me.

Thank You Daddy

Pastor B. Peebles

Elder Rickey E. Macklin

www.rickeymacklin.com