
Words of Truth

“For They All Shall Know Me”

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For the first fourteen years of my life I was not taught anything about our Lord. I did not own or have access to a Bible. The only time I heard the Lord's name in my family was when His name was used vainly. We know God doesn't appreciate that (Exodus 20:7). In December of each year my mother would put a "manger scene" under our "Christmas Tree". Again, all of that was in sinful ignorance as was the way the Lord's name was used in our household. My point is, I did not understand anything truthful about our Heavenly Father or our Savior Jesus Christ. However, I did have the knowledge of their existence and even a sense of the need to be obedient.

I remember being in trouble as a teenager. At that time I decided I needed to pray to God. I know now that my prayer was not heard and that I erred in even how I approached God (Proverbs 15:8, Proverbs 15:29, Proverbs 28:9, Isaiah 59:1-2, John 9:31, and I Peter 3:12). Yet, even though I had never been taught anything correct about God, I knew He could hear me (again; I did not understand He would choose not to or why). How was this so? How, as an untaught person in a worldly home with a very worldly life did I know God was above and capable of hearing and seeing things below? How did I understand He was not "far away"? How did I understand that in my sins, I needed His forgiveness having never been taught that?

When my mother married her third husband (which was actually a remarriage to her first husband), I asked them if we could "go to church" sometime. Again, I was ignorant in what I said and how I thought about it. I erringly (John 4:20-24) thought there was something about a location and a holy building. However, I did understand the need to worship and serve God in some manner. Again, how did I know these things having never been taught them? Everyone in the world has the same knowledge I did then. How is that? Let's consider in our brief study how everyone knows about God, even if mixed with ignorance. Let's also consider how everyone knows they have some responsibility toward God, even if in ignorance. Let's start with the thought behind the title of this study.

They All Know Him

Jeremiah prophesied this: *“Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah: Not according to the covenant*

that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which my covenant they brake, although I was an husband unto them, saith the Lord: But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the Lord, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people. And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the Lord: for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more" (Jeremiah 31:31-34). If you read Hebrews 8:1-13 you know that this promise was about the New Testament of Jesus. We now have that covenant and are under it today (Hebrews 9:15-17). Did God fulfill His promise?

Jesus commanded the Apostles to preach the Gospel to every nation, every creature on the earth beginning at Jerusalem (Matthew 28:16-20, Mark 16:14-20, and Luke 24:36-53). The Scriptures reveal that they did as commanded. In the first century, the Gospel had been preached to all nations, every creature on earth as Jesus commanded (Romans 10:14-18, Romans 16:25-26, and Colossians 1:23). God kept His promise. That is why everyone you meet knows about God and about Jesus. God is not a secret. Furthermore, in addition to the fact that preaching the Gospel to the world was accomplished, we all have a natural knowledge of our Creator.

You Were Born With Some Knowledge

Under the Law of Moses the Gentiles were not widely educated concerning God and His will. Yet, we read this: *"For when the Gentiles, which have not the law, do by nature the things contained in the law, these, having not the law, are a law unto themselves: Which shew the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another;"* (Romans 2:14-15). The fact is, we just know some things about God even without instruction. Study the Scriptures. Think about how that since the Gospel was preached how man's natural knowledge of God, which led some to err, is now expected to be coupled with the published Gospel so that ignorant worship does not occur (Acts 17:16-30 and Romans 1:16-32).

Conclusion

Long before I was taught the truth, I understood that I needed to serve my Creator. That is the purpose of our existence (Ecclesiastes 12:13-14 and Revelation 4:11). You knew that too. Most of us searched for the truth, not to find God, but to find out how to have a proper relationship with God. Everyone knows there is a God. Everyone knows there is a Creator. Even the so-called atheist knows God is real. People do not work hard to disprove made up fairy tales and beings (i.e. Santa Claus and the Easter Bunny). Don't fear that someone doesn't know about God. The truth is, they do!