

# KNOWING GOD MORE & BEING KNOWN



#### KNOWING GOD MORE

# BE STILL AND <u>KNOW</u> THAT I AM GOD Psalm 46:10

"It's not great faith you need, it's faith in a great God."

(Author NT Wright)

"I want to know You – then know You more."
(Song – I Want to Know You, CityaLight)

What comes to our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us. A.W. Tozer.

80% of Americans believe in God. 84% of the world believe in God. But that does not mean it's the God of the bible. (What Does God have to Say – Tim Dilena, TSC NYC).

"A little knowledge of God is worth more than a lot of knowledge about God."

The fundamental difference between authentic Christianity and religion is the issue of knowing and being known by God, versus merely knowing about God.

Who or what forms your belief about God? Family, culture, people you follow, books, experiences, feelings, spiritual leaders – other influences?

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How well do you know God?

Creator? Father? Friend? Husband?

<ul> <li>How is the Holy Spirit speaking to you about your intimacy with God?</li> </ul>	To <b>LOVE</b> God and <b>know I AM LOVED</b> is to trust God,
What commitment will you make to pursue knowing	To <b>TRUST</b> God is to live in <b>FREEDOM</b> to obey God.
God more intimately so that He will come to you "like rain"?	<b>FREEDOM</b> empowers me to love God, love others and make God known.
	"Those who make God and His name their praise, may make God and His name their trust." (Matthew Henry)
	"The fear of God keeps men walking the right way. It's a respect for who He is, not scared of Him, but having a deep awe and respect for who He is." (Terry Macalmon).
	But the LORD is the <b>only true God</b> . He is the living God and the everlasting King! The whole earth trembles at His anger. The nations cannot stand up to His wrath.  11 Say this to those who worship other gods: "Your so-called gods, who did not make the heavens and earth, will vanish from the earth and from under the heavens."
	<sup>12</sup> But the LORD made the earth by his power, and He preserves it by His wisdom. With his own understanding He stretched out the heavens. <b>Jeremiah 10:10-12</b>
Written by Liz Dickson  For more information about this and other teaching contact  info@loveunveiled.org ©2024 Love UnVeiled	"And this is eternal life, that they may <b>know You</b> , the <b>only TRUE God</b> , and Jesus Christ whom You have sent." <b>John 17:3</b>
NOTE: Teaching Videos to accompany this lesson are available on YouTube - Love UnVeiled Channel and	

www.loveunveiled.org.

To **KNOW** God is to love God,

Other gods - "Artificial"

ARTIFICIAL - "the not real that looks real."

The world is using it "to know you" and to know what makes you feel better, to draw you into intimacy." (John Eldridge & Allen Arnold author "Risk the Real")

- True Artificial Intelligence it learns on its own and works independent of human maintenance.
- Rampant Consumerism "I see it, I like it, I want it, I
  got it." (lyrics "7 Rings" Ariana Grande)
- False religions/false teachers fluid, tolerant, free to be me. I am my own god.

Would you rather be known by a machine or by the only True God who made you, who knows you, who loves you and who has a purpose for your life which will fulfill you, give you everlasting life, joy, and peace, and will glorify Him?

"My people have gone into captivity for lack of knowledge" Isaiah 5:13

"My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge" Hosea 4:6

Saying to a tree, 'You are my father,' And to a stone, 'You gave birth to me.' For they have turned their back to Me, and not their face. But in the time of their trouble They will say, 'Arise and save us.' Jeremiah 2:27 NKJV

"The world may not want Jesus, but the world needs Jesus. Jesus doesn't need the world, but Jesus wants the world."

You may not want Jesus, but you need Jesus. Jesus doesn't need you, but He wants you.

- By growing in our knowledge of Him, by obeying Him, by loving Him, by enjoying intimacy with Him we can share with confidence His love and power to help others.
- By reading His word and applying it in our lives through the Holy Spirit. Daily meeting with God in His Word will draw us closer to knowing Him, loving Him, trusting Him.
   The more time we spend in His Presence, the more we will know Him.
- Through prayer. Stay connected to God throughout the day in prayer, praise and worship, confession, thanksgiving and presenting our needs. God is with us always, when we know Him we know He is near and only a prayer away.
- Meet regularly with other believers. Learn, grow together in knowing God, encourage and build one another up by sharing our knowledge of Him and His word.

# Read Daniel 11:32-35/Hosea 6:3

• Why is it so important for God's people to know Him and be known by Him?

**Christ.** To him be the glory, both now and forever. Amen. **2 Peter 3:17-18 NKJV** 

And now, little children abide in Him, that when He appears, we may have confidence and not be ashamed before Him at His coming. If you know that He is righteous, you know that everyone who practices righteousness is born of Him. I John 2:28-29 NKIV

Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! Therefore, the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure. I John 3:1-3 NKJV

"No eye has seen, no ear has heard, and no mind has imagined what God has prepared for those who love Him 1 Corinthians 2:9 NLT

# Why does knowing, loving and trusting God lead to freedom?

The more I know God, the more I will grow in my love for God, and in His love for me. By knowing and loving God, I learn that He is trustworthy. By knowing and being known I am free to follow Him trusting in His love, His purposes and His plans for me in the present and the future and making Him known to others.

"For My people are foolish, they have not known Me. They are silly children, and they have no understanding. They are wise to do evil, but to do good they have no knowledge." Jeremiah 4:22 NKJV

away from the one True God, or supersede God in my life?					

#### How does God want to be known?

This is what the LORD says: "Don't let the wise boast in their wisdom, or the powerful boast in their power, or the rich boast in their riches.

But those who wish to boast should boast in this alone: that

they truly know Me and understand that I am the LORD,

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Moses - God made known His ways to Moses, His acts to the children of Israel. **Psalm 103:7 NKJV** 

#### Read Exodus 33:11-34:9

- v 11 The Lord spoke to Moses <u>face to face</u> as a friend
- v 12 The Lord knew Moses by name and He had grace in God's sight.
- v 13 Moses wants to know God and His ways more
- v 17 Moses asks God to show him His glory
- 33 v 19, 34:6-7 God's glory is in His Name and His character – goodness, compassion, merciful, gracious, slow to anger, abounding in goodness and truth, forgiving sin, righteousness and justice.
- Knowing God requires humility.

Moses was the humblest man on earth (Numbers 12:3).

Israel wanted to hear from Moses not from God. They chose a mediator and rejected a relational encounter with God. (Exodus 20:18-19).

Israel's response expressed their preference for the law instead of grace. The law consists of preset boundaries that don't require a personal relationship with God. Grace, on the other hand, is based on relationship.

Pride is the greatest obstacle between man and God. When someone places themselves at the center of their own universe, they automatically displace God from that position making it difficult to submit to His will and recognize their dependence on Him. This creates a barrier in the relationship that is essential for spiritual life hindering the flow of divine grace... For those seeking spiritual growth, recognizing, and combating pride becomes a fundamental step. This involves cultivating humility, practicing

I open your word and I'm overwhelmed with tears by the volume of kisses you are waiting to shower on me - for wisdom, instruction, correction, forgiveness, healing, teaching, comfort, strength, hope, transformation, and intimacy.

How sweet are your words to my taste sweeter than honey to my mouth. Psalm 119:103

.... Your judgments of the Lord are true and righteous all

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My dear children, for whom I am again in the pains of childbirth until Christ is formed in you, Galatians 4:19 NIV

Now we see things imperfectly, like puzzling reflections in a mirror, but then we will see everything with perfect clarity. All that I know now is partial and incomplete, but then I will know everything completely, just as God now knows me completely 1 Corinthians 13:12 NLT

You, therefore, beloved, since you know this, beforehand, beware lest, you also fall from your own steadfastness, being led away with the error of wickedness, but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus

without a spot or wrinkle or any other blemish. Instead, she will be holy and without fault. Ephesians 5:25-27 NLT

I feel it is far better to begin with God, to see His face first, to get my soul near Him before it is near another.  $^\sim$  E. M. Bounds

Spend time with Him in His word, in worship, in prayer, but mainly in His word.

Let him kiss me with the kisses of his mouth for your love is better than wine. Because of the frequency of your good arrangements, your name is ointment, put forth there for the virgins love you. Draw me away! **Song of Solomon 1:1-3** 

Bless the Lord oh my soul... who satisfies your mouth with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle. **Psalm 103:1,5** 

The Lord will guide you continually, and "satisfy your soul" in drought, and "strengthen your bones", you should be like a watered garden, like a spring of water whose waters do not fail. **Isaiah 58:11** 

It is the intimate kisses of His mouth - His word, that satisfy our weary soul and strengthen us with the strength we had in our youth.

Journal 2/7/24 Your word alone can satisfy me oh Lord for your word is the kiss I need to restore me. Your love, intimately spoken in your Word are my strength. It is strength to my bones. It is sweet to my soul, like honey. It strengthens and renews my energy, my hope, my joy.

empathy, and opening oneself to vulnerability, recognizing that we are all equal in our search for meaning and connection. Only then can we begin to avert our gaze from the deceptive reflection of pride, directing our vision upwards in search of a deeper understanding of the purpose of our journey and the constant presence of the sacred in our lives. CS Lewis.

Come let us return to the Lord, Hosea 6:1

 Knowing God means growing in an intimate, tender, loving, responsive, relationship with Him.
 God responds to those who seek Him.

Oh, that we might know the LORD! Let us press on to know Him. He will respond to us as surely as the arrival of dawn or the coming of rains in early spring." Hosea 6:3 NLT

"O Israel and Judah what should I do with you?" asks the LORD. "For your love vanishes like the morning mist and disappears like dew in the sunlight..." Hosea 6:3-4 NLT

When we pursue, press into seeking God, spending time with Him, He comes to us. He is ever faithful, steadfast, reliable. In contrast we are like the morning cloud and dew that comes and goes away, we don't stay in His presence, we are often fleeting in relating to Him or waiting with Him.

I want you to show love not offer sacrifices. I want you to know Me more than I want burnt offerings. Hosea 6:6 NLT

These verses are not speaking of knowing "about' God, but of knowing Him intimately.

In some bible translations the word "know" is used to describe the intimate union between a man and wife which leads to conception. For example, these verses from NKJV;

- Now Adam <u>knew</u> his wife and she conceived.
   Genesis 4:1
- Cain knew his wife and she conceived. Genesis 4:17
- Adam <u>knew</u> his wife again and she bore a son names
   Seth Genesis 4:25
- Elkanah <u>knew</u> his wife Hannah and God remembered her... Hannah conceived and bore a son and called his name Samuel. 1 Samuel 1:19-20

In each verse, the use of the word "know," indicated an intimacy between husband and wife which resulted in the birth of a child.

#### Read Hosea 2:14-22.

I will betroth you to Me and you shall "know" the LORD. **Hosea 2:22.** 

God was promising Israel intimate relationship.

Intimacy - face time with God - God revealing who He is and who you are.

Intimacy requires transparency - the Lord is inviting us into transparency.

It takes time. God is not in a hurry. He gives us time to process.

#### Luke 17:11-19

"A sense of our spiritual leprosy should make us very humble whenever we draw near to Christ. It is enough to refer ourselves to the compassions of Christ, for they fail not. We may look for God to meet us with mercy, when we are found in the way of obedience. Only one of those who were healed returned to give thanks. It becomes us, like him, to be very humble in thanksgivings, as well as in prayers. Christ noticed the one who thus distinguished himself, he was a Samaritan. The others only got the outward cure, he alone got the spiritual blessing." (Matthew Henry)

... They are spots and blemishes, carousing in their own deceptions while they feast with you, having eyes full of adultery and that cannot cease from sin, enticing unstable souls. They have a heart trained in covetous practices and are accursed children. They have forsaken the right way and gone astray... 2 Peter 2:13-15 NKJV

Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells. Therefore, beloved, looking forward to these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace, without spot and blameless; 2 Peter 3:13-14 NKJV

For husbands, this means love your wives, just as Christ loved the church. He gave up His life for her to make her holy and clean, washed by the cleansing of God's word. He did this to present her to Himself as a glorious church

Now a leper came to Him, imploring Him, kneeling down to Him and saying to Him, "If You are willing, You can make me clean." Then Jesus, moved with compassion, stretched out His hand and touched him, and said to him, "I am cleansed." As willing; be soon as He had spoken, immediately the leprosy left him, and he was cleansed. And He strictly warned him and sent him away at once, and said to him, "See that you say nothing to anyone; but go your way, show yourself to the priest, and offer for your cleansing those things which Moses commanded, as a testimony to them. "However, he went out and began to proclaim it freely, and to spread the matter, so that Jesus could no longer openly enter the city, but was outside in deserted places; and they came to Him from every direction. Mark 1:40-45 NKJV

Now a certain woman had a flow of blood for twelve years, and had suffered many things from many physicians. She had spent all that she had and was no better, but rather grew worse. When she heard about Jesus, she came behind Him in the crowd and touched His garment. For she said, "If only I may touch His clothes, I shall be made well." Immediately the fountain of her blood was dried up, and she felt in her body that she was healed of the affliction. And Jesus, immediately knowing in Himself that power had gone out of Him, turned around in the crowd and said, "Who touched My clothes?" But His disciples said to Him, "You see the multitude thronging You, and You say, 'Who touched Me?'" And He looked around to see her who had done this thing. But the woman, fearing and trembling, knowing what had happened to her, came, and fell down before Him and told Him the whole truth. And He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made

• We can grow in knowing God more in our trials.

I had only heard about you before, but now I have seen You with my eyes. **Job 42:5 NLT** 

 Knowing God increases our boldness and courage in adversity.

Those who do wickedly against the covenant he shall corrupt with flattery; but the people who know their God shall be strong and carry out great exploits. Daniel 11:32 NKIV

Believers have a mediator - Jesus!

There is one mediator between God and man, the Man Christ Jesus. 1 Timothy 2:5

But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: **John 1:12 NKJV** 

For God, who said, "Let there be light in the darkness," has made this light shine in our hearts so we could know the glory of God that is seen in the face of Jesus Christ. 2 Corinthians 4:6 NLT

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Long ago God spoke many times and in many ways to our ancestors through the prophets. <sup>2</sup> And now in these final days, He has spoken to us through His Son. God promised everything to the Son as an inheritance, and through the Son He created the universe. <sup>3</sup> The Son radiates God's own glory and expresses the very character of God, and He sustains everything by the mighty power of His command. When He had cleansed us from our sins, He sat down in the place of honor at the right hand of the majestic God in heaven. **Hebrews 1:1-3 NLT** 

When God our Savior revealed his kindness and love, <sup>5</sup> He saved us, not because of the righteous things we had done, but because of His mercy. He washed away our sins, giving us a new birth and new life through the Holy Spirit. <sup>6</sup> He generously poured out the Spirit upon us through Jesus Christ our Savior. Because of His grace He made us right in His sight and gave us confidence that we will inherit eternal life. **Titus 3:4-6 NLT** 

I count all things loss for the excellence of the **knowledge of**Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ. And be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God through by faith; that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death if by any means I may attain to the resurrection from the dead. Philippians 3:10-11 NKJV

**Leviticus 13** - 59 verses describing the rituals for someone with leprosy, including isolation, ritual washing of infected clothing, appearing before the priest

**Leviticus 14** - 57 verses on ritual cleansing for healed lepers and their homes.

**Leviticus 15** - 33 verses about the rituals for bodily discharges.

**Leviticus 13:1-3** if the spot is deeper than the skin it is leprosy.

Now the leper on whom the sore *is*, his clothes shall be torn and his head bare; and he shall cover his mustache, and cry, 'Unclean! Unclean!' <sup>46</sup> He shall be unclean. Every day he has the sore he shall be unclean. He *is* unclean, and he shall dwell alone; his dwelling *shall be* outside the camp.

### Leviticus 13:45-46 NKJV

'If a woman has a discharge of blood for many days, other than at the time of her *customary* impurity, or if it runs beyond her *usual time of* impurity, all the days of her unclean discharge shall be as the days of customary impurity. She *shall be* unclean. Every bed on which she lies all the days of her discharge shall be to her as the bed of her impurity; and whatever she sits on shall be unclean, as the uncleanness of her impurity. Whoever touches those things shall be unclean; he shall wash his clothes and bathe in water and be unclean until evening. But if she is cleansed of her discharge, then she shall count for herself seven days, and after that she shall be clean. **Leviticus 15:25-28 NKJV** 

Now by this we know that we know Him if we keep His commandments. He who says I know Him and does not keep His commandments is a liar and the truth is not in him. But whoever keeps his Word truly the love of God is perfected in Him, by this we know we are in Him. 1 John 2:3-5

...as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the **knowledge** of Him who called us by glory and virtue, by which have been given to us **exceedingly great and precious promises**, that through these you may be **partakers of the divine nature**. **2 Peter 1:3-4** 

Therefore, be imitators of God as dear children. **Ephesians 5:1** 

#### Reflection

- The more we know God, the more we become like Him, His nature and His image will be revealed in us.
- We are formed in His image. But to be shaped into His image we have to know what He's like and who He is so that we can imitate Him and reflect Him in the world.

#### How do we know we know Him?

- God's word and His Spirit testify to us that we are known by Him.
- God's promises are conditional, they are for those who know and love Him.
- As in any relationship love and trust are based on knowing the person well.
- In order to love God we have to grow in knowing Him
- He promises that if we will pursue knowing Him, He will pour Himself out on us like rain.

And this is eternal life that they may **know YOU**, the only true God and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. **John 17:3** 

But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: **John 1:12 NKJV** 

The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. **Romans 8:16** 

If you really know Me, you will know My Father as well. From now on, you do know Him and have seen Him." Philip said, "Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us." Jesus answered: "Don't you know Me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen Me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? John 14:7-9 NIV

"If you love me, keep my commands. And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever— the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept Him because it neither sees Him nor knows Him. But you know Him, for He lives with you and will be in you. John 14:15-17

O righteous Father! The world has not known You, but I have known You; and these have known that You sent Me. **John 17:25 NKJV** 

"Now by this **we know that we know Him** if we keep His commandments. He who says, "I know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him. He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked. "I John 2:3-6 NKJV

I am the good Shepherd and I know My sheep and am known by My sheep. John 10:14 NLT

My sheep listen to My voice; I know them, and they follow Me. John 10:27 NIV

Do you know Jesus? Does He know you? It's not "do you go to church; do you have Christian parents?" It's "have you passed through the sheep gate?" We must all pass through the door of the sheep gate to be known by the Good Shepherd. Jesus is the door of the sheep.

God	d's Voice	Satan's Voice		
0	Stills you	Rushes you		
0	Leads you	Pushes you		
0	Reassures you	Frightens you		
0	Enlightens you	Confuses you		
0	Encourages you	Discourages you		
0	Comforts you	Worries you		
0	Calms you	Obsesses you		
0	Convicts you	Condemns you		

(Choosing God's Best, c1998 by Dr. Don Raunikar)

Which voice to you listen to?

 Being known by God won't happen without my surrender and response to Him.

"Whatever it takes, for my will to break, that's what I'm willing to do" (Song - Lanny Wolfe)

We cannot rest in our outward works for our salvation. Salvation is a work of the heart. It is a response in our heart to God's invitation to know Him intimately by acknowledging and confessing our sin, believing in our hearts that Jesus is Lord and confessing Him with our mouth.

"Search me, O God, and KNOW my heart; Try me, and know my anxieties; And see if there is any wicked way in me and lead me in the way everlasting." **Psalm 139:23-24 NKJV** 

If we had forgotten the name of our God or spread our hands in prayer to foreign gods, God would surely have known it, for He knows the secrets of every heart. Psalm 44:20-21 NLT

"Jesus knowing their thoughts said, "Why do you think evil in your hearts." **Matthew 9:4** 

• The shepherd knows his sheep and the sheep knows the shepherd.

He tends His flock like a shepherd: He gathers the lambs in His arms and carries them close to His heart; He gently leads those that have young. **Isaiah 40:11 NIV** 

#### Session 2 – BEING KNOWN BY GOD

- How do you want to be known?
- What is important to you, that you want others to know about you?
- Do you want to be known? Some of us are afraid of being knowing by others, and even by God and so we hide who we really are.
- Are you afraid to be known? If so, why?

The only thing more important than knowing God is to be known by Him.

It's better to be known by God than to be known by the world.

**Psalm 139:1** Oh God, you have searched me and known me.

"Come and see a man who told me everything I ever did! Could he possibly be the Messiah?" John 4:29 NLT

"Not everyone who calls out to me, 'Lord! Lord!' will enter the Kingdom of Heaven. Only those who do the will of my Father in heaven will enter. On judgment day many will say to me, 'Lord! Lord! We prophesied in your name and cast out demons in your name and performed many miracles in your name.' <sup>23</sup> But I will reply, 'I never knew you. Get away from me, you who break God's laws.' Matthew 7:21-23 NLT

I never knew you – I never had any acquaintance with you. I don't recognize you. You don't bear My image. You are not part of My family, covered by the righteousness of Jesus.

Jesus is talking about false prophets – you will know them by their fruit. **Matthew 7:15-16 NKJV** 

"Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites as it is written "these people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from Me, and in vain they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men" Matthew 15:7-9 NKIV

Strange fire! "Then Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, each took his censer and put fire in it, put incense on it, and offered profane fire before the Lord, which He had not commanded them. So, fire went out from the Lord and devoured them, and they died before the Lord. And Moses said to Aaron, "This is what the Lord spoke, saying: 'By those who come near Me I must be regarded as holy; And before all the people I must be glorified.'" So, Aaron held his peace. Leviticus 10:1-3 NKJV

Fire - Holy pure love to God.

... a burnt sacrifice, and offering made by fire, a sweet aroma to the Lord. **Leviticus 1:17** 

Strange fire – artificial. Incense with fire of their own making, not been sacrificed through the brazen altar.

Strange fire is what is of the world or the flesh introduced into our workship, service of God. Strange fire would be a <u>human imitation</u> of what is divine. **Acts 2:1-4, Acts 5:1-5** 

Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit. But in humility (loneliness of mind) esteem others as better than ourselves. **Philippians 2:3**  God knows our hearts. He knows what we truly believe and our attitude toward Him. We cannot offer to Him proud "sacrifices" or religious rituals that are unworthy of Him. He seeks those who come to Him in humility, ready to sacrifice their pride and lay before Him humble and contrite hearts grieving for sin (Psalm 51:17).

The Altar – the Cross - tests everything and cannot be touched by what is unholy and unsuitable to God; but it also sanctifies every true gift placed on it.

True consecration comes not from responsibility, but from response.

## How do I know I am KNOWN by God?

The LORD is good, A stronghold in the day of trouble; And He **knows** those who trust in Him. **Nahum 1:7 NKJV** 

Oh Lord, you have searched me, and **known** me. **Psalm** 139:1

But if anyone loves God, this one is **known** by Him. **1 Corinthians 8:3** 

But now that you know God—or rather are known by God—how is it that you are turning back to those weak and miserable forces? Do you wish to be enslaved by them all over again? Galatians 4:9 NIV

God's solid foundation stands firm, sealed with this inscription: "The Lord knows those who are His," and, "Everyone who confesses the name of the Lord must turn away from wickedness." 2 Timothy 2:19 NIV