

To Know Him!

November 17, 2019

Hebrews 8:8-12 ESV

8 For he finds fault with them when he says: "Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will establish a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah, 9 not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt. For they did not continue in my covenant, and so I showed no concern for them, declares the Lord.

10 For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my laws into their minds, and write them on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

11 And they shall not teach, each one his neighbor and each one his brother, saying, 'Know the Lord,' for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest.

12 For I will be merciful toward their iniquities, and I will remember their sins no more."

Genesis 3:8-10 ESV

8 And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.

9 But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, "Where are you?"

10 And he said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself."

- *The New Covenant of being born-again, is all about restoring the relationship of knowing God, lost in the original sin.*
- *God loves each and every person so much, He is willing to forgive and forget that which He abhors, just to be restored in relationship with us.*
- *The Old Covenant negotiated a limited channel of communication through prophets and priests, but never restored relationship. It was a peace treaty, but we still were not citizens.*
- *The purpose of redemption is not to be a better person, is not to be a success in life, is not to break self-destructive habits and lifestyles, is not to escape judgment and Hell, is not to make the world a better place, is not to build bigger ministries and church campuses.*
- *The purpose of redemption is for each and every believer to know God personally and uniquely, to walk with God in a loving submission and companionship, to be fully satisfied and content in the enjoyment of His presence.*

"He made us in His own image and likeness: creatures with whom He could commune, companion and fellowship. You were made for God's fellowship, and to fulfill any other purpose is to fail to fulfill your destiny."
—Billy Graham, Made For God's Purpose, Not Your Own, 1956

"My goal is God Himself...At any cost, dear Lord, by any road."

—Oswald Chambers, The Eternal Goal, My Upmost for His Highest

John 17:1-3 ESV

1 When Jesus had spoken these words, he lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you,

2 since you have given him authority over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him.

3 And this is eternal life, that they know you the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.

Matthew 7:21-23 ESV

21 "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.

22 On that day many will say to me, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophecy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?'

23 And then will I declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.'

- *It is the restlessness and discontentment of the flesh to take what God has given and turn it into something He never intended.*
- *The flesh says, "We have to do more to be successful." But God says, "Know me, and what is done will be My work, my Way, in My time."*
- *Many with grandiose plans for God who appear very successful, will hear those words, "Depart from Me."*

Acts 7:23-30 ESV

23 "When he was forty years old, it came into his heart to visit his brothers, the children of Israel.

24 And seeing one of them being wronged, and avenged him by striking down the Egyptian.

25 He supposed that his brothers would understand that God was giving them salvation by his hand, but they did not understand.

26 And on the following day he appeared to them as they were quarreling and tried to reconcile them, saying, 'Men, you are brothers. Why do you wrong each other?'

27 But the man who was wronging his neighbor thrust him aside, saying, 'Who made you a ruler and a judge over us?'

28 Do you want to kill me as you killed the Egyptian yesterday?'

29 At this retort Moses fled and became an exile in the land of Midian, where he became the father of two sons.

30 "Now when forty years had passed, an angel appeared to him in the wilderness of Mount Sinai, in a flame of fire in a bush.

- *The desperate need and suffering of the Israelites was real and painful enough to see that Moses was moved to do something by impulse immediately. But it wasn't God's time and it wasn't God's way.*
- *We are often compelled by impulse, just like Moses, to meet the needs and solve the problems, but we run into the same roadblock as Moses, people don't want to be saved.*
- *So Moses is now forced into the desert for his own personal 40 year wilderness where he will learn to know God, to learn God's heart, God's ways and God's timing.*
- *In God's priorities, knowing Him is more important than meeting needs.*

Luke 10:38-42 ESV

38 Now as they went on their way, Jesus entered a village. And a woman named Martha welcomed him into her

house.

39 And she had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to his teaching.

40 But Martha was distracted with much serving. And she went up to him and said, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me."

41 But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things,

42 but one thing is necessary. Mary has chosen the good portion, which will not be taken away from her."

- *We become so distracted and so anxious about needs, sins, trials and problems, yet Jesus says the one and only priority is to know Him!*

Psalm 127:1-2 ESV A Song of Ascents. Of Solomon.

1 Unless the LORD builds the house, those who build it labor in vain. Unless the LORD watches over the city, the watchman stays awake in vain.

2 It is in vain that you rise up early and go late to rest, eating the bread of anxious toil; for he gives to his beloved sleep.

Revelation 21:1-3 ESV

1 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more.

2 And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God.