

LOGOS

(1st Year)

October 10, 2010

THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOD

It is impossible to fully define God, or to know fully all that God is. In fact, we cannot fully define and know everything in the physical world, much less the nature of the infinite.

This does not mean that we cannot have positive and accurate knowledge about God, or that we cannot know Him in an experiential way.

- The Bible declares that people from the beginning **knew** God but did not **retain** God in their **knowledge**. (*Romans 1:21, 28*)
- We also know that through **Jesus Christ**, people may come to **know** God. (*John 17:3*)
- We also know that God is incomprehensible (Impossible to **totally** comprehend). (*Romans 11:33*)
- Yet our belief about God is very **convincing**. (*II Timothy 1:12*)

PRE-REQUISITES TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOD

1. God initiated His Self-Revelation.
2. God gave language for communication.
3. Spiritual illumination is necessary and provided.

- The Holy Spirit is given to all believers as a **teacher** and **guide**.
(John 16:7-15)

Two key ideas =

- a) He guides into **truth**.
 - b) He teaches what He **hears** from the other **two** Persons of the **Godhead**.
- To understand the study of God, a believer's **heart** must be **yielded** to God.
 - When the believer is yielded to God, he can understand **truth** about God that is **not** available to anyone **else**.
 - The **study** of God then is unlike any other study (science, etc. because divine illumination is **absolutely** necessary.

4. **Mankind was created in the image of God.** (Genesis 1:26-27)

- The context demands a **contrast** of the **animal** kingdom and mankind. (Notice verse 25)
- The **words**, image, and likeness are again stated in one term in verse 27 as **image**.
- To be made in the image of God cannot mean that we have **divine** qualities.
- The best use of this term would be = We are **moral** and **rational** beings.
 - We have **personality**.
 - We have a **moral** nature.
 - We have a **social** nature.
 - We can have **fellowship** with God. (1 John 1:3)

WHY HAS GOD CHOSEN TO REVEAL HIMSELF TO MAN?

1. So that man can possess **eternal life**. (*John 17:1-5; 1 Timothy 2:4*)
2. So that man can have **fellowship (Relationship)** with the Father and Jesus Christ. (*1 John 1:1-4*)
3. So that man can **worship** the one true God. (*Romans 11:33-36; John 4:21-26*)
4. To warn man of the **judgment** to come. (*Hosea 4:6; Hebrews 10:26-31*)