

Prayer List



Of Our Number

- ♦ Janice Carnley—Shoal Creek
- ♦ Donna Parish—unwell lately
- ♦ Jim Ward—improving, Encompass Inpatient Rehab, Pensacola, Rm. 106

Others in Need

- ♦ Mary Lou Joseph—cancer
- ♦ Katie Gonzalez—6, rare disease
- ♦ Michael Hudson—stage 4 cancer
- ♦ Jeff Mashburn—health problems
- ♦ Thad McCall—health problems
- ♦ Mary Milsted—lung cancer
- ♦ Shane Price—cancer
- ♦ Larry Shapley—hospice care
- ♦ Ronnie Wells—health problems
- ♦ Sidney White—high blood press.
- ♦ Christians overseas, Ukraine
- ♦ Sound Bible schools, Government leaders, military, 1st responders, travelers, the lost, and our enemies

Continued in next column...

To Our Visitors



We are happy and honored that you are here! Please fill out a visitor's card and give us a chance to get to know you. If you have any questions about anything said or done in Bible class or worship, please ask. We seek to give a Bible answer for everything we do (Colossians 3:17; 1 Peter 3:15; 4:11).

Events



No fellowship meals in December, January

December 11
Men's Meeting

February 24
Faith and Fellowship

Privileged to Serve



Announcements—Glenn Howze
Song Leading—Sunday—David Howze; Wednesday—Caleb Howze

Serving the Lord's Supper
Head: Leo Derrick; Helpers: Wilfred Derrick, Caleb Howze, Ethan Howze

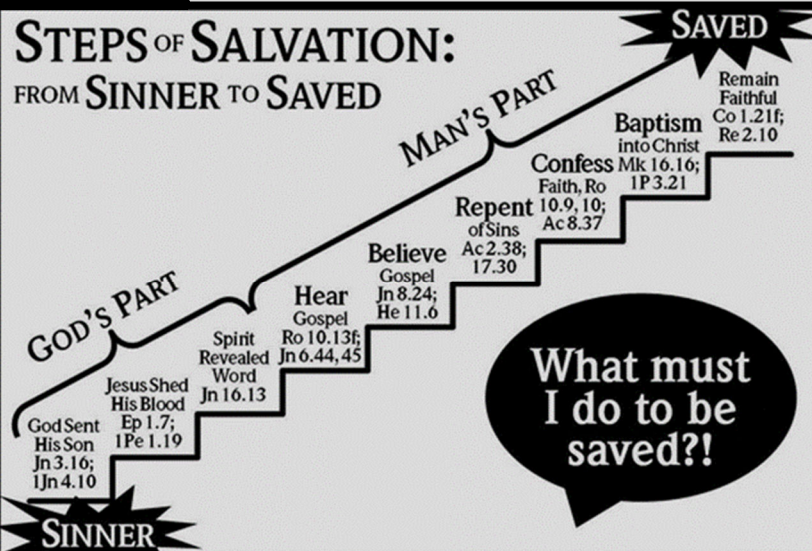
Lord's Supper PM
Head: Glenn Howze
Helper: David Howze

Scripture Reading—Mark Howze

Faithful Worship — **1) Praying** to God the Father in the name of Jesus Christ (Luke 11:1-2; John 16:23; Eph. 5:20; Phil. 4:6); **2) Singing** without mechanical instruments (Matt. 26:30; Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16-17; Heb. 2:12); **3) Preaching** God's Word (Mark 16:15-16; Acts 2:42; 20:7); **4) Giving** weekly as prospered, cheerfully (1 Cor. 16:1-2; 2 Cor. 9:7); **5) The Lord's Supper** on the first day of every week (Matt. 26:26-28; Acts 20:7; 1 Cor. 11:20-34; 16:2; Heb. 10:23-31).

STEPS OF SALVATION: FROM SINNER TO SAVED

"...ye were the servants of sin..."
(Romans 6:17).



"...but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness" (Rom. 6:17b-18).

THE BAKER BULLETIN

The weekly bulletin of

The church of Christ in Baker, FL

November 27, 2022

Meeting Times

Sundays:

- 10AM Bible Class
- 11AM Worship
- 6PM Worship

Wednesdays:

- 7PM Bible Class

Other Information

5761 Hwy. 4
P.O. Box 285
Baker, FL 32531 USA
850-669-9117

Website:

churchofChristatBaker.com

Radio Program:

104.7FM Sundays 8:30AM
WAAZ1047.com livestream

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Knowing the Lord

Roger Campbell

As you and I study the epistle which we know as 1 John, it is apparent that some of the first-century Christians to whom John wrote had come in contact with untruthful messages about fellowship, love, and sin. What about the concept of "knowing God?" That, too, was a matter about which the saints needed clarity.

Hear the message of 1 John 2:3-6: "*And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments. He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him. He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked.*"

Some questions are in order. First of all, in the context of 1 John 2:3-6, who is the "one" that John speaks about knowing? In verse five, we read about "*the love of God,*"—so God is in the picture. Also, when we follow the pronoun "him" from verse three back to the opening statements of the chapter, what we see is a reference to the Father and the Christ (2:1), followed by a reference to Jesus being the propitiation for our sins (2:2). So, in this context, knowing "him" refers to knowing the "Lord."

Is it possible for humans to know God? John's inspired message gives an affirmative answer as he spoke of those who legitimately "*know him*" (2:3). Paul expressed his personal desire to "*know him and the power of his resurrection*" (Phil. 3:10). In this case, the word "him" refers to the Christ. At the time Paul wrote that statement, he already had been in the Lord over two decades. The apostle certainly knew the fact that Jesus had risen from the dead and that his resurrection showed him to be the Son of God with power (Rom. 1:4). What Paul longed for was to know the Lord personally and intimately, being able to understand and appreciate as much as humanly

possible everything about the Savior.

Is it possible for humans to know that they “know” God? Yes. Look again at 1 John 2:3: *“And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments.”* John went on to declare, *“But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him”* (2:5). Thus, it is possible for one to know “where he/she is” in their spiritual life. A child of God can know Him (2:3), know that he is in Him (2:5), and know that he has eternal life (5:13).

Why is knowing the Lord such an important matter? When Jesus prayed to the Father about His authority to grant eternal life to those whom the Father gave Him, He said, *“And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent”* (John 17:2,3). So, a person being granted eternal life is predicated upon that person knowing the Lord. Therefore, knowing or not knowing the Lord will determine a person’s eternal destiny (whether he will receive eternal life or not).

Is there a difference between knowing *about* God and actually *knowing* God? There is a huge difference. Many people believe in God—accepting the evidence for his existence. Yet, some of those folks have no interest in learning or doing God’s will. Such people do not “know” the Lord in a biblical sense. Even among those who pronounce themselves as believers in Jesus, there are many who do not “know” the Lord in the way the Bible describes knowing him. Paul used strong language to warn Titus about certain individuals, saying: *“They profess that they know God; but in works they deny him...”* (Titus 1:16).

What if I claim to know God but do not submit to His instructions? Here is the Bible’s answer: *“He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him”* (1 John 2:4). Obviously, “knowing the Lord” involves more than thinking and talking about it. It requires action on our part — action that conforms to His will — obedience!

Who is the one who knows God? Here are three Bible descriptions of a God-knowing person:

1. He keeps God’s commandments. How do we know this is the case? The Bible says, *“And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments”* (1 John 2:3).
2. He *“keeps his word,”* and in him God’s love is perfected (1 John 2:5).
3. He abides in the Lord (1 John 2:5,6).

For one to “know” the Lord, he does not have to be well-known, well-educated in secular matters, or wealthy in a material sense. What he *does* have to do is possess a humble heart that is in love with the Lord. If one is going to know the Lord in the way that the Scriptures portray knowing him, then he will need to prepare his heart to study and *learn* what God desires, *accept* what the Lord says, and *submit courageously* to what the Lord commands. Such a conclusion may not sit well with some folks, but it is a sound conclusion drawn from the clear teaching of 1 John 2:3-6.

My friend, do *you* “know” the Lord? **To really “know” the Lord is to keep his commandments.** Notice what John said in chapter 5:2 *“By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep his commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous”* (1 John 5:2-3).
<http://www.SeektheOldPaths.com>

Satan Has Convinced You

Jason Patrick Hilburn

Satan and his influencers have convinced many people that a person does not have to obey God to get to Heaven. They have been sold the lie that as long as someone “accepts Jesus into his heart,” nothing else really matters. Friends, anybody who tells you that you don’t have to obey God is working for Satan, whether they realize it or not. Don’t you know that has been Satan’s plan from the beginning in the Garden of Eden, to convince man not to obey God?

Satan wants you to believe that since “nobody is perfect,” you don’t even have to bother trying to obey God when He says you must be baptized into Christ and die to sin (Rom. 6:1-12), when God says you must obey the civil law or receive damnation (Rom. 13:1, 2), that you must guard your tongue or be condemned (Matt. 12:36, 37; Jam. 1:26), that you must be sober or be destroyed (1 Thess. 5:1-8), that you must abstain from fleshly lusts or go to Hell (Gal. 5:19-21; 1 Pet. 2:11), that you must faithfully assemble or suffer “fiery indignation” (Heb. 10:23-31), or that you must live a sanctified, holy life differently from the world or be condemned with the world (Rom. 12:1, 2; 1 Cor. 11:32; 2 Cor. 7:1; Titus 1:16; 2:11, 12; 1 Pet. 1:15, 16). God plainly said that those who do otherwise will not go to Heaven, whether they believe in Jesus or not (1 Cor. 6:9-11; Gal. 5:19-21). Those warnings were sent to baptized believers, not atheists.

Friends, can you not see how ridiculous it is to believe that when God commands you to do something, you don’t have to do it? Can you not see how that is a lie meant to deceive you? If God commands those things listed above, we had better be doing those things exactly as He said to the best of our ability, along with anything else He commands, because we will be judged by what we have done (or failed to do)—not simply what we believe (Matt. 25:31-46; Rom. 2:5-11; 11:22; Gal. 6:7-9; Php. 2:12; 2 Cor. 5:9-11; 1 Pet. 1:17).

Since we are not perpetually flawless, should we just give up and stop trying to obey God? If a properly baptized Christian commits a sin or completely falls away, he should confess his sin(s) in penitent prayer to God and get back to walking in the light ASAP (Acts 8:13, 22-24; 1 John 1:6—2:6). The Bible teaches that many “believers in Christ” will end up in Hell because they would not live obedient lives (Matt. 7:21-27; John 12:42, 43; Heb. 5:9; 10:23-31, etc.). I don’t want any of us to be those people. Friends, wake up and start studying the Bible for yourselves (please!). God commands you to do that also (Acts 17:11; 1 Thess. 5:21; 2 Tim. 2:15). I challenge you to take your Bible and study all the passages listed above.
<http://www.JasonsBibleBlog.com>