

## You Can Know God

Excerpt from Glory to God in the Highest

by Joel Hemphill

### Scripture Clearly Teaches That God Can Be Known

There are awesome mysteries pertaining to the Eternal God which I do not pretend to have the answer to, neither will I speculate on them in this book. We should speak where the Bible speaks, and be silent where the Bible is silent, and not struggle with the unknowable.

*“The **secret things** belong unto the Lord our God: but **those things which are revealed** belong unto us and to our children for ever...” (Deut. 29:29).*

Moses is saying, there are “**secret things**,” and there are “**revealed things**.” The secret things belong to **God** only, but the revealed things belong to us. And God does reveal things in His word that were previously unseen.

*“Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the Scripture” (Luke 24:45).*

*“When he, the Spirit of truth is come, he will **guide you into all truth**...and he will show you things to come” (John 16:13).*

Don't struggle with the “secret things,” but do grasp the “revealed things” and hold onto them tenaciously!

*“Prove all things; **hold fast** to that which is good” (I Thess. 5:21).*

Since God opened my understanding and revealed **Himself** to me in His word, yes, **I see Jesus**; he is our savior, redeemer, and Messiah (a high and exalted position), but **I now see God our Father** on every page of the Bible and He alone is the Supreme God. That is **true** Oneness. If you have questions and a teachable spirit, God has anointed me to help you see **Him** in His word. If you do not my hands are clean. God for sure did not inspire the writing of a Bible, made up of sixty-six books, with 31,000 verses, and fail to reveal **Himself** in it!

## God Is Knowable

I hear ministers of different persuasions say “God is unknowable,” but that is gross error! Please don’t make that mistake. It is an insult to an all-wise God to say that He made us to be His sons and daughters, but did not give us enough intelligence to **know** and understand Him.

*“But let him that glorieth **glory in this**, that he **understandeth** and **knoweth** me, that **I am the Lord** which exercise loving-kindness, judgement, and righteousness, in the earth: for in these things I delight, saith the Lord” (Jer. 9:24).*

The Lord God is saying two things in the preceding verse:

1. If you boast in **anything** or rejoice over **anything**, boast and rejoice in this; that you “understand and know me, that I am the Lord!” That is knowing who your God is! Listen to the cry of God’s heart at the beginning of the book of Isaiah:

*“Hear, O heavens, and give ear, O earth: for the Lord hath spoken, I have nourished and brought up children, and they have rebelled against me. **The ox knoweth his owner**, and the ass his master’s crib: but **Israel doth not know, my people doth not consider**” (Isaiah 1:2-3). God is saying, if the ox has sense enough to know his owner, and the ass his crib, then we should have sense enough to know Him.*

If the awesome God of the Bible, God our Father, is unknowable, the great apostle Paul was certainly not aware of it:

*“Because that which may be **known** of God is manifest in them; for **God hath showed it unto them**. For the invisible things of **him** from the creation of the world **are clearly seen**, being **understood** by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are **without excuse**” (Rom. 1:19-20).*

The confusion in Christianity as to the identity of the One Most High Creator God is inexcusable. In the Old Testament over 10,000 **singular** pronouns and verbs are used in reference to Almighty God (“I, Me, He, Him” **never** “We, They, Them”), proving to any reasonably intelligent person that the God of the Old Testament is **one** entity, being, person. In the New Testament there are over 1300 references to “**God**” when the writer is clearly not speaking of Jesus, teaching us that Jesus the Son of God is not the “**God**” of the New Testament.

2. The second thing that God is saying in Jeremiah chapter nine is this: Rejoice and boast in what you know **about** me:

*"I am the Lord which exercise loving-kindness, judgement, and righteousness, in the earth...in these things I delight" (Jer. 9:24).*

Knowing God is one thing and knowing **about Him**, His character, His wonderful, loving, patient, compassionate, forgiving, Divine nature is another. Many books have been written, could and should be written about the latter, but the focus of this book is the former, **knowing God!** Yes, teach us **about** God; that is very important. He is the one concerning whom it can be truly said, "To know Him is to love Him." He is so kind, and caring, and merciful, and faithful, and loveable! In fact when Jesus was asked what is the greatest commandment, he bypassed the obvious ten and went to the Creed of Israel (Deut. 6:4) and claimed it as his Creed as well:

"Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is **one** Lord [not three]: And thou shalt **love the Lord thy God** with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength" (Mark 12:29-30).

How can we as Christians obey this our greatest commandment, if we have not seen clearly in Scripture who "**the Lord our God**" is? How can we "worship the Father in spirit and in truth" as Jesus said He must be worshiped ("*worship the **Father**...true worshippers shall worship the **Father**...the **Father** seeketh such to worship **him**" -John 4:22-23), if we do not understand who "our Father which is in heaven" is? Many who know the Lord Jesus Christ, have been blinded by Greek philosophy and Catholic tradition as to the identity of God our Father.*

*"I ascend unto **my Father**, and **your Father**; and to **my God**, and **your God**" [Jesus speaking] (John 20:17).*

Since God revealed **Himself** to me in His word, my task has been to help introduce people to their God. Jesus' message to the Jews who believed in God "the Holy **one** of Israel," but who did not see Jesus as Messiah, was:

*"Ye believe in God, believe also in me" (John 14:1).*

As a minister of Jesus, my message to Christianity that believes in Jesus is, "**you believe in Jesus, believe also in God!**" "*And this is life eternal*" [Jesus speaking]. The Jews must learn **who Jesus is**, but Christianity must learn **who God is!**

*“How can you believe, when you receive glory from one another and you do not seek the glory that is from the **one and only God...the Father**” [Jesus speaking] (John 5:44-45 NASB). Take Jesus’ word for it, **the Father is “the one and only God!”***

The following statements of fact are not meant to offend or to call into question anyone’s salvation; that is not my intent. I am by nature **inclusive** and **not exclusive**. I have spent my entire adult life trying to encourage, build up and gather up the body of Christ, but **the truth** is by nature exclusive. There is only one truth regarding who God is!

If you believe that God is a tyrant then you do not **know God**. If you believe that God is inconsistent then you do not **know God**. If you believe that God is an impersonal God- force, an invisible mist that fills the universe and is in all things (flowers, grass, trees, etc.), having no form, essence, or substance, then you do not **know God**. That is pantheism and we need to give it back to the Hindus!

If you believe that God was once a baby soiling His diaper, who had to be taught how to walk; or that God moved into the womb of a virgin, similar to you and me becoming a “slug or a crab,” then you do not **know God**.

*“God is not a man....neither the son of man...” (Numbers 23:19).*

*“God is not a man.....” (I Samuel 15:29).*

*“For I am God, and not man; the Holy **One** in the midst of thee” (Hosea 11:9).*

If you believe that God ever died, then you don’t **know God**. One million atomic bombs could not kill God, much less three nails and a sword. He is “eternal, immortal [deathless], invisible, the only wise God” (I Tim. 1:17). “No man hath seen God at any time,” but in our glorified bodies we shall behold Him.

*“Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God” (Matt. 5:8).*

*“And they shall see his face” (Rev. 22:4).*

If you believe that God is a committee of three persons, then you don’t **know God**. (Please do not be offended. You may know Jesus, but he is not the Eternal God). The universe is a product of **one awesome mind**, that of God our Creator, and any belief other than that is polytheism (multiple Gods)!

Nothing in the world that you could know **about** God could come close to being as important as truly **knowing Him**. Many things **about** God fall into place when you **know** Him; His worship, His love, and His fear.

*“And they shall **know** that **I** am the **Lord their God**, that brought them forth out of the land of Egypt” (Ex. 29:46).*

*“Solomon, my son, **know** thou the **God** of thy father” [David speaking] (I Chron. 28:9).*

*“Be still, and **know** that I am **God**” (Ps. 46:10).*

*“All flesh shall **know** that I the **Lord** am thy Savior and Redeemer, the mighty **One** of Jacob” (Isa. 49:26).*

*“The heathen shall **know** that I am the Lord, the Holy **One** in Israel. Behold, it is come, and it is done, saith the **Lord God**” (Ezek. 39:7-8).*

*“So the house of Israel shall **know** that I am the **Lord their God**” (v. 22).*

*“Then shall they **know** that I am the Lord their God...saith the **Lord God**” (vs. 28-29).*