

THE UNKNOWN GOD

Rev. Mike Jones, Lebanon FWB Church

Acts 17:23 *For as I passed by, and beheld your devotions, I found an altar with this inscription, TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Whom therefore ye ignorantly worship, him declare I unto you.*



REASONS GOD IS UNKNOWN:

A) SO BUSY WITH OUR PLANS UNTIL WE MISS GOD: Jacob at Bethel- Gen 28:16-17 *And Jacob awaked out of his sleep, and he said, Surely the Lord is in this place; and I knew it not. And he was afraid, and said, How dreadful is this place! this is none other but the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.*

B) SIN IN OUR LIFE: Samson didn't realize that the Spirit of the Lord had departed. Judges 16:19-20 *And she made him sleep upon her knees; and she called for a man, and she caused him to shave off the seven locks of his head; and she began to afflict him, and his strength went from him. And she said, The Philistines be upon thee, Samson. And he awoke out of his sleep, and said, I will go out as at other times before, and shake myself. And he wist not that the Lord was departed from him.*

We are in the world and sometimes we allow the spirit of the world to seduce us. We continue to try to do God's work without God's power and end up grinding for the enemy. If you don't know God is missing you are headed for Defeat: Deut 1:42 *And the Lord said unto me, Say unto them, Go not up, neither fight; for I am not among you; lest ye be smitten before your enemies.*

C) UNBELIEF HIDES GOD: Disciples on the road to Emmaus did not recognize the Lord--even when he walked and talked with them!! Luke 24:15-16 *And it came to pass, that, while they communed together and reasoned, Jesus himself drew near, and went with them. But their eyes were holden that they should not know him.*

D) "SCIENCE" HIDES GOD: John 1:10 *He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not.*

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT FOR US TO KNOW GOD?

A. God is seeking people to have a RELATIONSHIP with Him. Sin must be dealt with because it hinders that relationship but handling the sin is not the only thing God is trying to do- He wants us to KNOW Him and Fellowship with Him. John 17:3 *And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.*

B. Knowing Him helps us OVERCOME TEMPTATION: II Pet 1:3-4 *According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue: whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.*

HOW CAN WE COME TO KNOW GOD?

A) Allow the Spirit to Reveal Him to Us- I Cor 2:11-12 *For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.*

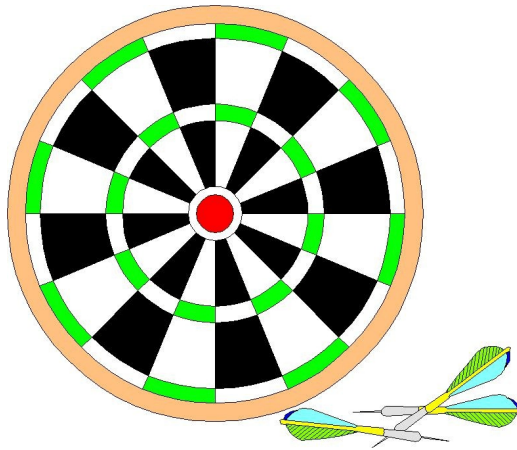
I Cor 2: 14 *But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.*



B) Listen to the Man of God and the Word of God- I Cor 1:21 *For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe.*

C) Make it our CHIEF GOAL in life to Know Him- The Apostle Paul: Phil 3:8,10 *Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus:... That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;* Paul wanted to know (1) His Person, (2) His Power, and (3) His Pain.

Sin is "Missing the Life. Jesus was the only the Mark". If we are to know be like the one who "always



Mark" of God's Plan for our human who did not "miss God then we must learn to hit the Bulls Eye"- Jesus.