HOW WE COME TO KNOW GOD

Intro: Knowing God is vital to each person. Knowing God means eternal life. Jesus prayed, “And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent. (John 17:3). Since it is life eternal, we need to know how we can come to a knowledge of God.

I. NATURE
   A. Psa. 19:1 “The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork.”
   B. Rom. 1:20 “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:”
   C. Only the fool says no God.
      1. Psa. 14:1 “The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God. They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, there is none that doeth good.”
      2. Psa. 53:1 “The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God. Corrupt are they, and have done abominable iniquity: there is none that doeth good.”
   D. Philosophical Arguments:
      1. Cosmological Argument—this is an argument from cause
         a. For everything there must be a sufficient cause.
         b. The universe exists and must have a sufficient cause.
         c. The only sufficient cause is God.
      2. Teleological Argument—this is an argument to design
         a. There is design seen in the universe.
         b. Design demands a Designer which is God.
      3. Moral Argument
         a. There is a right and wrong.
         b. Morality can only exist if God exist.
         c. Dostoyevsky said, “If there is no God, then everything is permissible.”
      4. This knowledge is incomplete.

II. HIS SON: JESUS CHRIST
   A. When we look at Jesus and His life; we see the Father.
      1. Mat. 11:27 “All things are delivered unto me of my Father: and no man knoweth the Son, but the Father; neither knoweth any man the Father, save the Son, and he to whomsoever the Son will reveal him.”
      2. John 1:18 “No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him.”
      3. John 14:9 “Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? he that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou then, Shew us the Father?”
   B. We see the Father because Jesus is God.
      1. 1 Tim. 3:16 “And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.”
      2. Mat. 1:23 “Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.”
   C. In His life Jesus exemplified God and His nature.
      1. Heb. 1:3 “Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;”
2. 2 Cor. 4:4 “In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.”

III. **BY GOD’S HOLY SPIRIT**

A. 1 Cor. 2:11 “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.”

B. He does this by the prophets and apostles who spoke by His inspiration.

1. Mark 13:11 “But when they shall lead you, and deliver you up, take no thought beforehand what ye shall speak, neither do ye premeditate: but whatsoever shall be given you in that hour, that speak ye: for it is not ye that speak, but the Holy Ghost.”

2. 1 Cor. 2:7-13 “But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory: 8Which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. 9But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. 10But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. 11For 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. 12Now 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. 13Which things also we speak, not in the words which man’s wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.”

3. 2 Tim. 3:16-17 “All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: 17That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.”

IV. **WE DO NOT KNOW GOD BY FEELINGS, SOME INNER LIGHT, OPINIONS, THAT WHICH SEEMS RIGHT TO US, ETC.**

A. Jer. 10:23 “O LORD, I know that the way of man is not in himself: it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps.”

B. Pro. 14:12 “There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.”

C. Isa. 55:8-9 “For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. 9For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.”

Conclusion: The most important thing in your life is to come to a knowledge of God by examining the life of Christ and the Scriptures so you can have life eternal.