

Knowing Him!

(Dale G. Hudson)

April 5, 2020

As you and I well know, we are living in perilous times. It has been a common census to say, "I'm on my way to heaven, or I'm climbing mountains trying to get home, or I am climbing up the rough side of the mountain, trying my best to make it in." Songs like, "Goin' Up Yonder," "Soon and Very Soon," "When the Roll is Called Up Yonder," or last but not least, "Heaven is My goal."

There is a generation that longs to get their reward and they deserve it. Heaven looms large for them. However, there are also those who have willingly chosen to be a part of the "Joshua and Caleb Generation," which are those intent on killing a few giants so the church won't give in to fear!

In order to represent the Father and reintroduce the Kingdom of God, we must solve the "identity problem." We must understand what it really means to be in Christ:

- Who I am / Where I am
- What I have
- What I can do

There are questions that must be answered before we can truly grasp the essence of conquest and possession of "the Land of Promise."

P.S. or FYI: I did not say Heaven!

Contrary to popular opinion, Heaven is not your goal. (I didn't say you aren't going.) I said it's not the goal.

Before we can delve into or excavate the riches of what we have, we must first know the one in whom we believe.

We need to know God, who is our Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ His Son whom He sent.

You can't have faith in someone in whom you don't know whether or not you can trust.

God has been misrepresented so much that the church thinks He's vindictive and He's going to "get us back or He might kill us with His power."

As we continue with our classes, we are going to see how much He has gone out of His way to prove just the opposite is true.

As we have said before, God has revealed Himself in covenant relationship as:

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------|
| - Jireh | - Nissi |
| - Rapha / Rophe | - Shalom |
| - Tsidkenu | - Rohi |
| - Shammah | - M'Kaddesh |

But all of this culminates in the person of "Jesus Christ."

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God points to the Son.

The Son points to the Father.

The Holy Spirit unveils revelation of the Son and Father.

Our #1 priority is to know Him and the goal is to be conformed to the image of His Son.

John 3:16 – For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him (the Word) shall not perish (be destroyed) but have everlasting life (the privilege and opportunity to know Him).

John 1 – In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by Him and without Him was not anything made that was made.

Col. 1:16, 17 – For by Him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers; all things were created by him, and for Him: and He is before all things, and by Him all things consist (***sunistao*** – sustained, held together, established).

Heb 1:1,2 – God who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in times past to the fathers by the prophets, hath in these last days spoken to by His Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things by whom also He made the worlds;

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.

The Prophets vs. the Sons

The prophets spoke in many different ways, manners and symbols

- Jesus not only had a message, He was the Message! And it/He was the final Word.

A word is a vehicle that transports a thought. Jesus who was/is “The Word (Logos)”

- A principal thought or concept
- The expression, or utterance of that thought
- A communication or a revelation excused in human flesh

Jesus came to do many things, but the main thing He came to do was to reveal the Father.

John 14:7 – “If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also; and from now on you know Him and have seen Him.

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Vs. 10b – “The Words that I speak to you, I do not speak on My own authority; but the Father who dwells in me does the work.

He is the “Brightness of God’s glory” –

- The shining forth of the glory (the heaviness of God)
- The express image of His person – (image – *charaker*)
 - o Just as the image and subscription on a coin exactly correspond to the device on the die, so that Son of God bears the very stamp of His nature.

What God essentially is, is made manifest in Christ.

“The Knowable God”

He has delivered us from the power of darkness and has conveyed (transferred) us into the kingdom of the Son of His love. In whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins. He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.

“The image of the invisible God”

- In contrast to the gnostic (and the Muslim) who maintains that God can never be known or understood, we have One who has made God known to us.
- “And the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us.” (John 1:14)

It is