

To Know Him is Life

John 17:2-3, "As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him. And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent."

The Greeks wanted to see Him (John 12:20-26). They wanted to know His Person. "Sirs, we would see Jesus." Now, you don't see with your eyes; you see with your heart. You look with your eyes; you understand with your heart. To "see" is "to understand." You look right at something and say, "I don't see it," but you're looking at it. But you mean you don't understand it.

The Greeks wanted to know Jesus, and He gave them the way to know Him: **to know Him, not to know His creed, not to know His Word, not to know His miracles, but to know Him. And the only way you find that is at the cross, not at the cradle. No, it's the cross (Rom. 6:6-11; Gal. 6:14-15).**

He pointed them to a cross, not to some creed, or not some manger or manner of denominations, but to the cross. And now, it's the same today. And if you ever come to Jesus... He'll never say, "Jesus told me to go join So-and-so church." He never did do that; He wouldn't do it today. No. **You'll just see Him; He'll point you to the cross. Go there and die, and then you'll know Him, if you want to know Him.**

Not one time did He point any person to any creed, any denomination, or to His birth, or even to Christmas. Not one time did He ever do it.

You can nowhere find it in the Bible, where He ever pointed anyone to anywhere else to know Him but the cross. That's right. And that is self-crucifixion to yourself: "Except a man be born again..." (John 3:3). [1]

Not to even know His Word; you got to know Him, know Him as your Saviour in new birth. Like Jesus said to Nicodemus, "If you can't believe earthly things that I tell you, how could you believe heavenly things?" (John 3:12). [2]

You know, It doesn't say, "To know His Book." **But, "To know Him is Life." See? Satan knows His Word. But, "To know Him, the Author of the Word."** [3]

Have you ever accepted Him as your Saviour? Do you know Him as your Saviour? If you got your name on a church book, and that's all you know, leave that where it's at, but come here and know Him.

You say, "I'm a Bible student, but I've never been born again. I don't know nothing about the Holy Spirit." **Not to know His Book is life, but to know Him.** Know Him; not the Word: Him. **Satan knows the Book.** Certainly.

A fellow said to me one time... **I was talking about the security of the believer.** Said, "You don't know your Bible." I said, "**But I know the Author.**" **That's the main thing. I know the Author. To know Him is Life.** That's right.

Now, you know **I wouldn't do that 'less the Holy Spirit was telling me** that there's people in here that should do that. Just the same as He knows the hearts of the people, He knows your condition. **Search yourself back, and see if the Life of Christ is reflecting Itself in your daily walk. Find out.** [4]

The reason Paul had this Christ-centered life is because **he now laying aside his teaching, he personally met Christ.**

And that's the only way that you're ever going to know Him, is to meet Him. See? Now, "**To know Him is Life,**" not even know His Word, as good as It may be. Yet, you've got to know Him. "**To know Him is Life.**"

And Paul had not had this experience yet. And he said, one place here, "*The life that I now live...*" **Showed that he had lived a different life, one time. His life had been changed** (*Gal. 2:20*).

And when your life is changed, it makes you do things you ordinarily would not do. And, it makes you say things you wouldn't ordinarily say, **a man that's got a Christ-centered life.** [5]

Look, Christ in you makes Him the center of Life of the revelation (*Col. 1:27-28*). See? **Christ's Life in you makes Him the center of the revelation. Christ, in the Bible, makes the Bible the complete revelation of Christ. Christ in you makes you the complete revelation of the whole thing,** see, what God is trying to do.

What is the new Birth then? You'd say, "Well, what is the new Birth?" **It is the revelation of Jesus Christ personally to you.** Amen! See? Not you joined a church, you shook a hand, you done something different, you said a creed, you promised to live by a code of rules. **But Christ, the Bible, He is the Word that was revealed to you.** And no matter what anybody says, what takes place, **it's Christ;** pastor, priest, whatever it might be. **It's Christ in you, that is the revelation that the Church was built upon** (*Matt. 16:13-19*).

What is it? **It's Christ being revealed, and He is the Word. And when the Word is revealed, It expresses Itself.** See? **That's God's purpose for Jesus Christ, was to express Himself, to take His Own laws and live by His laws, and fulfill His law, by death** (*Rom. 8:2-4*).

And Jesus Christ, God, died in flesh, in order to condemn sin in the flesh, that He might bring to Himself a glorious Bride, redeemed back, that will believe only in the Word of God; and not swap It, like Eve did, for intellectual conceptions of man. You see it?

The new Birth is Christ, is a revelation. God has revealed to you this great mystery, and that's a new Birth. [6]

Now you pray and say, "Lord Jesus, **I've heard lots of preaching.** I've heard masterpieces of sermons. But I want to see You, like the Greeks said, *'Sir, we would see Jesus.'*" **They didn't want to know the philosophy. They wanted to see Him, to know Him, not anything else but Him. And He is the Word, see, to know Him personally.** [7]

Sometimes they come in, a man will judge you by what kind of clothes. If you don't wear ministerial clothes, and so forth, then that's out, they won't have nothing to do with you. Sometimes they want to look to see what kind of an education you have, if you speak your words proper, if you stand correctly, how you use your nouns and pronouns. I did when I was in school, but I have forgotten that a long time ago.

I just know one thing, and that's Jesus Christ in the power of His resurrection, that's all I know how to say about. The adjectives and pronouns, I know nothing. And I think that's what we all come together for in meetings like this, is to know Him; not know nouns and pronouns, **but know Him, Jesus Christ, in the power of His resurrection** (*Phil. 3:7-10*). [8]

As I said, **to know Him is Life, not to know the Book, not to know the church, not to know the catechism, but to know Christ is Life, the Person Christ.** [9]

We can be a church member, and morally right, but still not obtained Eternal Life. Not to know the Word; some of them are theologians, and scholars, and Sunday school teachers, Bible expositors, but that doesn't mean anything. Satan knows that Bible better than any of us. The Bible said, "To know Him is Life," not know the Word. "Know Him is Life." Satan also believes and trembles (*James 2:19*). **But we've got to have an experience of a death, burial, and resurrection, from our old life, to the new Life which comes in Christ** (*Gal. 6:14; Gal. 2:19-21*). **It comes only by the Holy Spirit, the new Life.** [10]

See, prayer changes things. If you lay your husband, or your unsaved one, before God, and then pray, God will make a way somewhere, 'cause He promised to.

And I think that that reflects again, that **if a person ever meets Jesus and finds Him really in your heart, you're interested not only in your own household, but the household of God, everywhere. You're interested, that they know Him. "And to know Him is Life." "Know Him," see, not know how to read the Word, or so. But, "Know Him, is Life."** [11]

Notice now, when He said, still the disciples from Emmaus failed to know Him by the written Word (Luke 24:13-32). Think of that! When He come and revealed Himself by the Word, to them, and they still failed to see it.

If that ain't a picture of today, I don't know what is. Still failing, when the Scripture says these things. "It shall come to pass in the last days," saith God, *"I'll pour out My Spirit upon all flesh; your sons and daughters shall prophesy... Upon My handmaids and maid servants will I pour out of My Spirit, in that day. I'll show wonders in the heavens above, and fire and smoke..." (Joel 2:28-29).* Still they don't see it.

Jesus said, "As it was in the days of Noah, so shall it be in the coming of the Son of man; they'd be eating, drinking, marrying, given in marriage. As it was in the days of Lot, so shall it be in the coming of the Son of man." All these things they have spoken of, and the Word preached from the platform, and still many that love Him don't see it. They still grope on into darkness. **Still they fail to know Him, by the written Word (Luke 17:26-30).** [12]

If you want to find how great you are, put your finger down in a pool of water, or a bucket of water, then pull your finger out and try to find where you put your finger. **You're nothing.**

God can do without you, He can do without me, **but we can't do without Him. We've got to have Him, for He is Life, and He alone. Not to know His Book, not to know this, or know that, or know the creed. "But to know Him is Life," know Him as the Person, Christ in you, the Word made flesh in you (Col. 1:26-28). That's knowing Him. When you and He became, becomes one. He has got to come in you. You! God and man must come one. You're conscious of your littleness.** [13]

But it's the same Person all the time, the same Person, God all the time. In this way He reveals Himself to His people, in doing this. Notice, through the age of the Pillar of Fire (Exod. 13:21-22), He revealed Himself to His people. In the age of Jesus, He revealed Himself to His people. In the age of the Holy Spirit, as Son of God. Son of David... He always reveals Himself in that manner to His people, making the

people to know Him. He is veiled behind something, notice, in the same way, or same nature, every time. [14]

Life only comes by Christ, "to know Him," not know His Word, not know His Church, not know His This. **"Know Him," that's the only thing can give you Life. [15]**

So that's the main thing, if I know the Author. To know Him, whether you know all the Word, or not; just to know Him! [16]

We're here to the spot now. The Gentiles of that day failed to see It, **because It was in human flesh. I wonder if we'll do the same thing. I wonder if we'll make the sad mistake that they did, fail to know Him? Because, He was the Word for that age, was identified in a human body. [17]**

We always say today, people try to say, "We compare. We've got to compare Bible leaf with Bible leaf, Scripture with Scripture." That isn't the Truth. No, it isn't the Truth. "This Greek word means this, and this means that." The Greeks themselves, way back in the Nicaea Council, and them writers back in there, they had different forms. One believed this way, this Greek scholar meant this, and the other one said this one meant it this way. And they fussed over It. We don't need interpretation of Greek scholars or Greek words.

"To know Him is Life," the Person, Christ Himself! Not comparing. It's a revelation that God built His Church upon. And if we don't build upon that same Church... The Bible said, "Abel, by faith!" (Heb. 11:4). And faith is a Divine revelation. See, faith is a Divine revelation. All right. This whole Thing is built upon the revelation then, and unless this is revealed to you! Jesus said, "I thank Thee, Father, that Thou has hid these things from the wise of this world, and revealed it to babes such as will learn." (Matt. 11:25-27). See, now, the whole thing is built there, you've got to know the Person!

And you cannot satisfy that by joining church. **You've got to find the Person, God Himself, which is the Word and interpretation of Himself today, the promises that He made today.** The people that He was going to have in this day, "the Church without spot or wrinkle," don't mean a denomination; it means the persons, **the individuals without spot or wrinkle (Eph. 5:27).** "Be two in the bed, I'll take one and leave one; two in the field, I'll take one and leave one." (Luke 17:33-36). **But when that holy thirst to be like Him, and then you see that His Word is in you, vindicating Itself,** that you are God's servant. Whatever God says, you just toe right up to it, then you're coming through the right process then to satisfy that holy thirst that's in you.

You only know God by an experience. You cannot educate This into you. It's born into you! It's something that God gives you. Education has nothing to do with It. One of the greatest men in the Bible couldn't even sign his name, Saint Peter. That's exactly right, him and John, the Bible said, "They were both ignorant and unlearned." (Acts 4:13). But it pleased Jesus to give him the keys to the Kingdom, because he was thirsting for God. Amen. Thirsting for God, fellowship. Yes, sir.

And let me tell you, friend, I don't care how many churches you join, how many names you put on, which a way you go, and whether you are sprinkled, baptized, or whatever you are; **until you meet that Person, Jesus Christ! That, that's the only thing that will really satisfy.**

Emotion won't do it; you might jump up-and-down and shout as long as you want to, or you might run up-and-down the floor, and you might speak in tongues as much as you want to. And these things are holy and good. I don't say nothing against that. **But until you meet that Person, that satisfying Portion, that Something that takes every fiber in your body; not by emotion, but by a satisfaction!** [18]

But it's going to be required, of you, what you did about the understanding of God's Word. That's where the requirement comes, because That. Your education is fine, but the Word of God is Life. "My Word is Life," and to know It is Life. And He said, "Know Him." He is the Word. So you can only know Him by the Word, for He is the Word. And that's the only way you'll know Him, is by His Word. [19]

Reference:

- [1] "Sirs, We Would See Jesus" (61-1224), pg. 28-29
- [2] "You Must Be Born Again" (61-1231M), par. 124
- [3] "Confirmation of the Commission" (62-0122), par. 45
- [4] "A Greater Than Solomon Is Here" (62-0628), par. E-131
- [5] "An Absolute" (63-0127), par. 88-91
- [6] "Christ Is The Mystery of God Revealed" (63-0728), par. 233-236, 240
- [7] "Go Wake Jesus" (63-1103), par. 251
- [8] "Looking Unto Jesus" (64-0122), par. 30-32
- [9] "The Worst Sinner in the City" (56-0218E), par. E-17
- [10] "The Investments" (64-0314), par. 71
- [11] "He Was To Pass This Way" (64-0321B), par. 54-56
- [12] "When Their Eyes Were Opened, They Knew Him" (64-0212), par. 45-47
- [13] "Influence" (63-1130B), par. 113-114
- [14] "The Unveiling of God" (64-0614M), par. 91
- [15] "Identification" (64-0216), par. 145
- [16] "Who Is Jesus" (64-0620B), par. 60
- [17] "The Identified Christ of All Ages" (64-0617), par. 142
- [18] "Thirst" (65-0919), par. 121-123, 130, 137-138
- [19] "Lean Not Unto Your Own Understanding" (65-0120), par. 36

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*There's coming one with a Message that's straight on the Bible, and quick work will circle the earth. The seeds will go in newspapers, reading material, until every predestinated Seed of God has heard It.
[Bro. Branham in „Conduct-Order-Doctrine“, page 724]*