To Know Jesus and the Power of His Resurrection

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But whatever things were gain to me, those things I have counted as loss for the sake of Christ. More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish so that I may gain Christ, and may be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own derived from the Law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which comes from God on the basis of faith, that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death; in order that I may attain to the resurrection from the dead. (Phil. 3:7-11) NASB

The Only way to get to Heaven is through Jesus Christ. And you must know Him personally to get there! Many sit in Churches today who know about Him but don't know Him personally. They sing praises, serve and act appropriately in Church, etc...

They're convinced they're saved and going to Heaven and don't understand they've been deceived by their religion (whatever that might be). Religion is satan's number one tool in destroying an innocent soul. Religion produces a false sense of security that blinds a person into thinking they're right with God when in reality they are Not! Religion has taking more people to Hell than drunkenness, immorality, lying, etc... Jesus died on the Cross to pay for all our sins; past, present, and future. The Only thing He could not pay for is the SIN of UNBELIEF! (John 16:7-11) Because we must chose; Life or Death!

There are Only Two Ways to Get to Know JESUS Personally

The <u>SPIRIT</u> and the <u>WORD</u> and they both work together. You cannot have One without the Other!

But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit (Holy Spirit) and in truth (Word): for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth. (John 4:23,24)

Even the Spirit of truth (The Word); whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. (John 14:17)

Is Today's Church (as a whole) Ready for the Return of Jesus Christ?

Study of Global Christianity; (by Gordon Conwell Theological Seminary)

<u>There are over 45,000 Christian denominations</u> around the world. Most Do Not agree with each other. This is a rather shocking statement considering what the Scriptures tell us:

Endeavouring to **keep the unity of the Spirit** in the bond of peace. There is **one body**, and **one Spirit**, even as ye are called in **one hope** of your calling; **One Lord**, **one faith**, **one baptism**, **One God** and **Father of all**, who is above all, and through all, and in you all. (Eph. 4:3-6)

Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that **ye all speak the same thing**, and that **there be no divisions among you**; but that ye be **perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment**. (1 Cor. 1:10)

That <u>they all may be one</u>; as thou, Father, <u>art in me</u>, and <u>I in thee</u>, that <u>they also may be one in us</u>: <u>that the world may believe that thou hast sent me</u>. And the glory which thou gavest me <u>I have given them</u>; that <u>they may be one</u>, even <u>as we are one</u>: <u>I in them</u>, and <u>thou in me</u>, that <u>they may be made perfect in one</u>; and <u>that the world may know that thou hast sent me</u>, and <u>hast loved them</u>, as <u>thou hast loved me</u>.

(John 17:21-23)

In my missionary journeys I've noticed "The Church is a mile wide but an inch deep." There's a lot of different activities going on, but very little understanding of the Word and the Holy Spirit. We should also remember that not everyone in the Church claiming to be a Christian is Born Again! Including some of it's leaders. That's why it is so important to find a Church that teaches the Gospel correctly and lives like a True disciple.

A Believers Victory is Based on a Correct Relationship with the Holy Spirit
The Holy Spirit is the One that wrote the Word, therefore it is the Holy Spirit that
can teach and interprete the Word correctly. If the Holy Spirit is not in you, you Do
Not belong to God! (Rom. 8:5-9) You are religious, but not Born Again.

What does the WORD say about the HOLY SPIRIT?

The Holy Spirit is a Person, the Third Part of the GodHead. He's got Emotions, a Mind, and a Will like us. Jesus is the Head of the Church but it is the Holy Spirit that runs and manages it for GOD.

The Holy Spirit will never speak of Himself but constantly gives Glory to Jesus Christ! The Holy Spirit must be envolved in every aspect of our daily life. He must control our character, He must control how we worship, He must control where we go and minister, He must show us what to do in a particular situation and what gifts to use at that moment. If we listen carefully to the Holy Spirit we will never go astray or veer off the straight and Narrow path. We will not be deceived by clever evil men used by satan to shipwreck our Faith. The failure of the Church in History has been a lack of Knowledge (Hos. 4:6): What knowledge one might ask? The lack of knowledge in not knowing the will of God or more precisely not listening to what the Holy Spirit is telling them. Lets use some scriptures to understand what the scriptures tell us about the Holy Spirit.

Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come. He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you. All things that the Father hath are mine: therefore said I, that he shall take of mine, and shall shew it unto you.

(John 16:13-15)

The Spirit alone gives eternal life. Human effort accomplishes nothing.

And the very words I have spoken to you are spirit and life. (John 6:63) NLT

And ye have an anointing from the Holy One, and ye know all the things.

I have not written unto you because ye know not the truth, but because ye know it, and because no lie is of the truth. (1 John 2:20)

But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him.

(1 John 2:27)

For the Holy Ghost shall teach you in the same hour what ye ought to say.

(Luke 12:12)

But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you. (John 14:26)

For our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost, and in much assurance; as ye know what manner of men we were among you for your sake. (1 Thess. 1:5).

For we are not as many, which corrupt the word of God: but as of sincerity, but as of God, in the sight of God speak we in Christ. (2 Cor. 2:17)

But have renounced the hidden things of dishonesty, not walking in craftiness, nor handling the word of God deceitfully; but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God. (2 Cor. 4:2)

For the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness and righteousness and truth; Proving what is acceptable unto the Lord. And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them. (Eph. 5:9-11)

See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, Redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is. And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit; Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord; Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. (Eph. 5:15-20)

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law. And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. Let us not be desirous of vain glory, provoking one another, envying one another. Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted. Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ. For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself. But let every man prove his own work, and then shall he have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another. For every man shall bear his own burden. (Gal. 5:22-6:5)

What does the WORD say about Itself?

Blessed Are They That Hear the Word of God, and Keep It! Notice it's not those that hear the Word of God that are Blessed, but they that keep it!

Blessed are they that hear the word of God, and keep it. (Luke 11:28)

It's not coming to the altar and praying one time and then forgetting about Jesus and His Word. It is about hearing the Word and Living it out until death!

And he answered and said unto them, <u>My mother and my brethren are these which</u> <u>hear the word of God</u>, <u>and do it</u>. (Luke 8:21)

But he said, Yea rather, For whosoever shall be ashamed of me and of my words, of him shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he shall come in his own glory, and in his Father's, and of the holy angels. (Luke 9:26)

<u>He that rejecteth me</u>, <u>and receiveth not my words</u>, <u>hath one that judgeth him</u>: <u>the word that I have spoken</u>, <u>the same shall judge him in the last day</u>. (John 12:48)

Don't you believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words

I speak are not my own, but my Father who lives in me does his work through me.

(John 14:10) NLT

I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. (John 17:14)

So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. (Rom. 10:17)

And we know Jesus became the Living Word of God! (John 1:1-14)

We are Ambassadors of Jesus Christ therefore Cannot Corrupt the Word of God We are responsible to God for what we teach the people! At the Judgment seat of Christ we will stand before GOD (Jesus) and give an account of what we said! As Ambassadors of Christ we must Obey and correctly minister the Word of God!

Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making an appeal through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. (2 Cor. 5:20)

NASB

And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power: (1 Cor. 2:4)

For our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost, and in much assurance; as ye know what manner of men we were among you for your sake. (1 Th. 1:5)

God's Grace is Not License to Sin

The word Grace does not mean a license to sin! In other words, the Grace of God does not give you the right to choose the way you want to live your life.

You cannot continue in sin because the Grace of God will cover it. God's Grace will not permit you to live a lascivious lifestyle. This is not what the Grace of God is for! This is not the purpose of God, and it will never be the purpose of God! The Holy Spirit will never tell you something that is contrary to scripture, after all He wrote it (2 Pet. 1:20,21).

So, if we sin, it's not the Holy Spirit doing it, it's our own selfish depraved desire, and we will suffer the consequences. **Grace does not deliver us in sin**, **Grace delivers us from sin**. Grace always frees us from sin. God's Grace requires us to live a holy life as a living sacrifice unto God. (Rom. 12:1,2):

There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death. For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh: That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

(Rom. 8:1-4)

Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty. (2 Cor. 6:14-18)

If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed: (2 John 10)