

APOSTLE JOSHUA SELMAN

—HOW
TO KNOW
GOD —



How to Know God

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transcribing Sermons of Apostle Joshua Selman

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HOW TO KNOW GOD

Imagine someone walks up to you and say “I want to know God, help me” as a leader in your church, what is the first step that you do? What are you going to tell that person?

You may tell the person “go to church” but the question is “do what there? Imagine he is coming from a church, yet telling you “I want to know God, I feel an emptiness in me and I am tired of playing religion and doing all religious activities”

How does a man know God? What is the pathway? Who is he? Where is he?

There are many frustrated people in many cities, and if we don't do something about it, people will start been vocal about their annoyance and this nuisance they believe to be Christianity.

The generation of our parents is loyal people, even if they don't believe, they just continue. But this is an enlightened generation. Someone will stand up and will post just one question on the internet –“Who is God?” and it will start trending and a thousand people will go to hell because no correct Christian will be able to answer, it will become galore of ignorance.

Who is God? Why should I know him? Do I really need him? Is it because of hellfire? Or is it because it is the entrance to the church? Or is it a way of honoring the membership of a man of God?

Every error or imbalance has an origin. It first starts as an opinion, and then the opinion is institutionalized. Then a time will come that opinion becomes a doctrine.

We are going to lose a generation if we don't know how to mentor people to know God. Have you paid attention recently to the hatred teenagers have for God? An average teenager has technology as the new god; they truly hate God.

There is a proposition that their age range has given their minds that made them hate God and they are very outspoken about it.

Knowing God is more than an impartation; an impartation will not reveal God to you, it can transfer some dimension of spiritual power, but your stability in this kingdom – strength – is in knowing God.

There are officially from scripture, four platforms that are provided for the believer, human, and saints to know God. It is impossible to know God outside of these boundaries. You cannot know God anyhow, there is a methodology, there are coordinates and boundaries of knowing God. Generally speaking, the word of God defines the boundaries of God's commitment to man. It is true that God wants to prosper you, his compassion responds to your situation but his hand is limited by the coordinates provided for by his word. So if he really wants to help you, his compassion will shift you to the place where his word can guide you.

If you don't know God there are certain risks that you cannot take in life because human beings can't take that risk. You cannot walk on water until you know God that sends you, you cannot stand before Pharoah, Pharoah will ask you who sends you. It is only the people that do know their God that can take such risks.

These risks are compiled in a season called life; your entire life will expose you to risks that humans should not take. So it only your knowledge of God that will bail you.

“Abraham come out of your father's house into a land that I will show you” “Abraham, take now only thy son, that thou loveth” what if God was lying? It is risky to play some games with destiny believing it was God. You need to know God; you can empty your account believing it is God, only to find out that it is not God.

HOW TO KNOW GOD

1. The scripture (The word of God) 2Timothy 3 vs. 15 :

The first way provided for the saints to know God is scripture. Whether you are from any other religion, once you come into saint life, the first way you begin to know the God of heaven is through scripture.

2Timothy 3:15 *And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.*

3:16 *All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:*

3:17 *That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.*

John 1:6 *There was a man sent from God, whose name was John.*

1:7 *The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe.*

1:8 *He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light.*

1:9 *That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world.*

1:10 *He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not.*

The word “word” in greek means “logos”. Logo does not just mean the thoughts of a man, it means the ideas and contemplation of a man that is seeking out expression.

So when the bible says scripture represent the word of God it means the thoughts and thinking of God that God wants people to know. The word of God allows us access to know what is in the mind of God that seeks to find expression.

Believers grow in this kingdom through their access to scripture. The first thing you learn in

scripture is the character of God. You know who a man is by his character, the character of a man is also a representation of the essence of that man.

From scripture, we know the methodologies of God; that means how God does things.

In the old testament, they did not know God, so they attributed everything to God. The moment a thing happen that was higher than three-dimensional realm, they said it was God. But when Jesus came as the manifestation of God in the flesh and he began to correct those perceptions.

We use the bible to correct our perceptions about God that has been proposed by culture, our pain and situation. Your situation is too small to draw a conclusion about who God is. Your life has not been vetted enough, but the word of God has been tried seven times. The word of God is a valid representation of the character of God.

God is vulnerable, he has a soft spot. There is something a man can tell God that will make him change his mind. Ask the man David, ask Moses. Do you know God to the extent that although you know that your father killed people, but that there is something about the mercy of God. Do you know God that much to not be threatened by yesterday?

¶I'm no longer slave to sin, I am the child of God

I'm no longer slave to sin, I am the child of God¶

The bible says *the Lord is gracious and compassionate, he is slow to anger*. That means it takes time, the God of the bible does not get angry over all you say, no, he is slow to anger. When it looks like God is against men, they have tracks of decades of rebellion, in spite of his proposing his mercy and a way out.

Fear and love cannot go the same way. The more you claim to know God the more your fear is growing, it's not supposed to be, something is

wrong. The *fear of the Lord* used does not mean terror, perfect love casts out fear. The bible tells us that the character of fear is that it torments and God wants your mind to be garrisoned with his peace.

It is not a license for a careless and wayward life. When the little children were forbidden to come to Jesus, he rebuked them and say let the little children come to me, do not forsake them for such is the kingdom of God. They sustain the teachability that the kingdom requires.

You don't read the bible just to be admired or cram scriptures and ease yourself from the guilt of backsliding, but you read the bible so that you will become it, so that you will become the expression of it. The Apostles called them "Living Epistles".

No man should come to you and make you feel limited by your background once you find out the character of God through the Scripture. Truly you might come from a family buffeted by curses and yokes, but it is written in the bible that in the character of God, there is a system where he can translate you.

There is a time in your life when you should engage the truth that sets you free, but that time is not forever, there should be an exact time where defeat has been thrown away and you walk in victory experientially.

To know him means to understand his character, as revealed from scripture.

Historically there was no compendium of 66 books like we have now as the Scripture, so this is God's effort to see that we know him. He made that his dealings with men historically be archived through this compendium and given to the saints. The 66 books as it were, is not all that Jesus said and did. The bible said in John 20 that many miracles Jesus did in the presence of his disciples were no recorded, that these were

recorded so that you might believe and in believing that you will have eternal life.

So the Scripture was given because it is enough to know God.

2. His names: Exodus 3 vs. 15 ff.

Exo 3:15 And God said moreover unto Moses, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, hath sent me unto you: this is my name for ever, and this is my memorial unto all generations.

Exo 3:16 Go, and gather the elders of Israel together, and say unto them, The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Jacob, appeared unto me, saying, I have surely visited you, and seen that which is done to you in Egypt:

Exo 3:17 And I have said, I will bring you up out of the affliction of Egypt unto the land of the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites, unto a land flowing with milk and honey.

Exo 3:18 And they shall hearken to thy voice: and thou shalt come, thou and the elders of Israel, unto the king of Egypt, and ye shall say unto him, The LORD God of the Hebrews hath met with us: and now let us go, we beseech thee, three days' journey into the wilderness, that we may sacrifice to the LORD our God.

The names of God contain revelation about different dimensions of him. A man can know God by knowing his names. The names of God in the bible are not just Greek and Hebrew names, they are representations of realms and dimensions.

The way they gave God names in the bible was that every encounter they had with God was a revelation of a dimension of him that they had

never seen, and every time they saw that dimension, they were compelled to capture that dimension in a name. God hid his power to reproduce that dimension in that name. So every time you invoke that dimension, the power that is made for that possibility is released in that name.

For instance, the power to prosper is in Jireh, when you catch the revelation of the name “Jireh”, in it is the power that prospers men.

The name “Rapha” contains in it, a dimension of God that can cause him to arise with healings in his wings

The God of Abraham is not the God of Isaac in terms of the dimensional operation. If you know only the God of Abraham, the result of Isaac will not come to you. The God of Isaac is not the God of Jacob in terms of the dimensional operation.

Every generation has an assignment, that before they exit the earth, they must add to the names of God. That means our generation must give God a name that our children must know.

The experience of knowing God was ongoing, it was never expected to stop. There are names that we God today, they are consistent with the Scripture but he was never called then.

¶Eze you are worthy of my praise

Oh oh oh oh, you are worthy of my praise.¶

There are names we have given God today that represent God as a fast worker, a quick and powerful God. You are not a blessing if your life does not give God names.

When Jacob was having an encounter with God, he was on the journey to giving God names throughout his life. There was God of Abraham and God of Isaac, no God of Jacob yet, and Jacob said “I must give God an experience”. By the time Jacob was old, there was a God of Jacob. The bible Psalm 24

Psa 24:3 *Who shall ascend into the hill of the LORD? or who shall stand in his holy place?*

Psa 24:4 He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully.

Psa 24:5 He shall receive the blessing from the LORD, and righteousness from the God of his salvation.

Psa 24:6 This is the generation of them that seek him, that seek thy face, O Jacob.

Which means Jacob has become a name that represents encounter. So every time God wants to give you encounter, you need the name of the God of Jacob. Jacob met with God in the night and refused to let the angel go even when they day breaks; it shows you how to have an encounter.

There is something about shame and the power of God overcoming shame that your life can capture and give God a name, that will allow you to mentor people, that every time shame is coming to your life...

That name can be a song, a conviction, or a creed, not necessarily a word.

Do you have a name? When challenges rise and threaten you, what name or song can you sing?

The psalmist calls God his light and salvation, in Palms 3 he calls God several names “My shield, My glory and the lifter of my head”

¶I will not be afraid of ten thousands of people

That set themselves against me round about

I will not be afraid of ten thousands of people

That set themselves against me round about

For thou Oh Lord, art a shield for me

My glory the lifter of my head¶

There are times that your all life will be in shame and reproach. That is not the time to sing songs and dance around. There is a name you need to find for God in that kind of shame and pain.

That is why the bible says “*sing unto the Lord a new song*”, which means let your experience cause you to sing something about God.

Way maker, miracle worker, promise keeper

Light in the darkness, my God that is who you are

God has a personal name called Yahweh. When you call him other names such as “way maker”, then he will come in the dimension of a way maker.

Jesus looked at Peter and asked, “*Who do people say I am?*” Amidst several names he was given, Peter said I know who you are; you are Christ the son of the living God.

When John saw him in heaven, he heard so many names that he didn’t hear on earth; that he is a rider upon the white horse, whose sword is not in his hands but comes from his mouth, whose name is not written on a badge but on the tide and his name is the word of God. John started seeing God’s new names; “Faithful, True”. Nobody ever called God “Love” until John called that dimension.

Paul looked at him and called him “Righteousness”.

Study the names of God, in it you find the dimension that your breakthrough needs, the dimension that can lift you.

God is called “Quick”, he is called “Powerful”.

There are different doors that are shut in your life, you need to know the names of God; they are keys to opening those doors.

For every dimension of God barren in your life means you have not gotten the name. There is a name of God that brings power to a man’s life.

There is a name that represent an encounter with God that takes away mediocrity; no place on earth will have the power to reject you when you have and know that name. e told Jeremiah “ *I have set you above thrones, above dominions, above kingdoms*” and Jeremiah believed it.

There are names anybody can call God and he will honor them, there are names only Christians can call.... *behold what manner of love the father has bestowed upon us that we should be called the sons of God*

There are names that any unbeliever can invoke and call God and he will show up, because those names speak about his mercy, those names do not talk about him being the God of the Christians. It's the name that connotes him of being a God of creation; so once his creature calls, he will answer as creator, not father.

¶ *Creator of the universe, what can't you do, what can't you do Jesus*

The name that is above every other name, what can't you do, what can't you do Jesus.¶

Exo 6:1 *Then the LORD said unto Moses, Now shalt thou see what I will do to Pharaoh: for with a strong hand shall he let them go, and with a strong hand shall he drive them out of his land.*

This dimension alone is a name. When things refuse to leave your life, there are names that you can invoke.

3. Jesus, the Christ: Colossians 1 vs. 15

Col 1:15 *Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature:*

This implies that the God that you have never seen, Jesus came to personify that God and whatever Jesus was in his earthwork, God is today. We can know God by looking at Jesus.

Heb 1:1 *God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets,*

Heb 1:2 Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;

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;

Jesus is the image of the father, whatever you think the father is, look at Jesus for clarification. When Jesus walked upon the earth, he was God made manifest, this is what the bible calls the mystery of godliness. We look at the life of Jesus as a revelation of God.

1Timothy 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.*

We know God by knowing Jesus, by watching the life of Jesus. We hear God when we hear Jesus, every Jesus said, God said it, everything Jesus thought of, God was thinking.

4. **Experience**

Job 42:5 *I have heard of thee by the hearing of the ear: but now mine eye seeth thee.* Job was in a situation in his life, where his experience compels him to know something about God. This is not a popular way of knowing God, but the most powerful way to know God. The bible says learned obedience by the things he suffered.

It was the experience of Isaiah that caused him to see and know God in a particular way. There are people who are born through things in this life, their scars became the key that the door to the knowledge of God.

If God is calling you to ministry, particularly the Apostolic and Prophetic ministry, one of the qualifications will be that there is a dimension of

God that must be known through your experience.

There is a level of innocence that Jacob had that did not allow him to know God until he went to the house of Laban and after over 20 years of been defrauded, he learned that when you miss some opportunities, they don't come easily. Little wonder why he refused to let the angel go, when he met with him.

Be not be ashamed of your experience and scar; your scar is proof that you were once injured but now it's healed. Scars are an instrument of glory in the spirit. There are some believers who are too innocent to carry some anointing.

Experiences, especially painful ones, open up your spiritual potentials, the things that you could do but has not been pressured, like when the wine comes out when you trench the vine and oil comes out when you trench the olive.

Not every experience is to your detriment; there are things that will have to push you. Don't think it is a thing of shame, but God been revealed through your pains. The things that cause you pain today is what you will be proud of tomorrow. Pains have monetary value, they have messages; there are books, ministries today that came out of pain. There are levels of compassion that only pain can bring.

¶In my life be glorified, be glorified¶

Don't run away, some doors are ugly, but the other side of that door was glory. Every time your obedience is adding up, it may not come one day, but it is been honored in heaven.

It is those who know their God will do exploits, if you do not know God, you will not excel in ministry, in destiny.

The God that we serve wants to be known and it is in the knowledge of God that our exploits lay.

Many believers have fallen away from the faith because there is something about God they did not know, many are becoming discouraged and outsourcing other gateways to prosperity because they do not know God.

Prayers:

1. Oh God reveal yourself to me, I want to know you
2. Lord open my eyes that I may behold wondrous things from your word; restore my passion for scripture.

Others Transcribed Sermons Of Apostle
Joshua Selman

Laws of Kingdom wealth: In this Book, it started with the discussion of the economic system of the kingdom of God, and we need to understand that the battle for wealth and prosperity is not just about the desire to use money to prove a point to people around you, but that there is a program and there is an agenda that is bigger than the personal interest of men, its important to get this, that prosperity is not just about the propriety for affluence but it's the time redemption strategy.

Paul was teaching the church in Ephesus and he admonish them to redeem time and he said the reason why they should redeem time is because the