

Knowing God -J.I. PACKER

Phil 3:7-10 – But whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ ⁹and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith. ¹⁰I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death

Knowing vs knowing about - Knowing verses knowing about

1. one can know a great deal about God without much knowledge of him

Who / What is God? In the Westminster Catechism (*everyone should have a personal theology of the divine character of God*) “God is a spirit, infinite, eternal, and unchangeable, in His being wisdom, power, holiness, justice goodness, and truth.”

John 5:39 -You study the Scriptures diligently because you think that in them you have eternal life. These are the very Scriptures that testify about me, ⁴⁰yet you refuse to come to me to have life.

2. one can know a great deal of godliness without much knowledge of God

“Having a form of godliness but denying the power thereof” 2 Tim 3:5

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Five basic truths :

1. God has spoken to man (His word)
 2. God is lord and king
 3. God is savior, active in sovereign love
 4. God is triune; the Father purposes it, the Son secures it, and the Spirit applies it
 5. Godliness means responding to God’s revelation in trust, obedience, and submission
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Evidence of knowing God :

It is said that when people know God, losses and “crosses” cease to matter to them; what they have gained simply banishes these things from their minds. What other effects does knowledge of God have on a person?

1. those who know God have great energy for God - Daniel 5:12- Forasmuch as an excellent spirit, and knowledge, and understanding, interpreting of dreams, and shewing of hard sentences, and dissolving of doubts, were found in the same Daniel, [Daniel 6:3](#) - Then this Daniel was preferred above the presidents and princes, because an excellent spirit [was] in him; and the king thought to set him over the whole realm

2. those who know God have great thoughts of God

Daniel 9... I, Daniel, understood from the Scriptures, according to the word of the LORD...Lord, the great and awesome God, who keeps his covenant of love with those who love him...Lord, you are righteous...Now, Lord our God, who brought your people out of Egypt with a mighty hand and who made for yourself a name that endures to this day

3. those who know God show great boldness for God

Acts 5:29, Peter and the other apostles replied: “We must obey God rather than human beings!

20:24 - However, I consider my life worth nothing to me; my only aim is to finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me—the task of testifying to the good news of God’s grace.

4. Have a great contentment in God –

Job 36:11 - If they obey and serve him, they will spend the rest of their days in prosperity and their years in **contentment**.

1 Tim 6:6 - But godliness with **contentment** is great gain.

- **Part I: Know the Lord**

1. "The Study of God"
2. "The People who Know their God"
3. "Knowing and Being Known"
4. "The Only True God"
5. "God Incarnate"
6. "He Shall Testify"

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- **Part II: Behold Your God!**

7. "God Unchanging"
8. "The Majesty of God"
9. "God Only Wise"
10. "God's Wisdom and Ours"
11. "The Word is Truth"
12. "The Love of God"
13. "The Grace of God"
14. "God the Judge"
15. "The Wrath of God"
16. "Goodness and Severity"
17. "The Jealous God"

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- **Part III: If God Be For Us -**

18. "The Heart of the Gospel"
19. "Sons of God"
20. "Thou our Guide"
21. "These Inward Trials"
22. "The Adequacy of God"