

They Don't Know God

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Judg 2:10 And also all that generation were gathered unto their fathers: and there arose another generation after them, which knew not the LORD, nor yet the works which he had done for Israel.

- I. Do you ever wonder how people can live in this world without any regard for God? The answer is that they simply do not know God.
 - A. This is the explanation for a lot of the things that people do and do not do who profess to know God, but whose lives do not line up with the Scriptures.
 - B. They have no knowledge of God at all, or what they have is not firsthand.
 - 1. Knowledge that is not firsthand has very little effect on a person – especially when that knowledge is about another person.
 - C. They know no more about God than we know about the person we meet on the highway from another state.
 - 1. They do not have a personal relationship with Him, and yet most would not ever deny his existence, and they count that as faith.
 - 2. Therefore, they just aren't concerned about what He thinks or says.
 - 3. Neither are they worried about the fact that they will face Him one day and He will be their Judge – they are willfully ignorant of this fact.
 - D. I can know someone that you don't know and I will have concerns about them while you do not, because you do not know them.
 - E. You can know someone I don't know and therefore they will affect your life, but not mine.
 - F. Sinners do things that offend God because they do not know God.
 - G. They also offend God by refusing to do things they should because they do not know the Lord.

John 16:3 And these things will they do unto you, because they have not known the Father, nor me.

Psa 92:5-6 O LORD, how great are thy works! and thy thoughts are very deep. A brutish man knoweth not; neither doth a fool understand this.

- H. This explains to us why people act the way they act, and do the things they do without regard for God or their future.
- II. It is very easy for children to grow up in a home where the parents know God and they don't.

1 Sam 2:12 Now the sons of Eli were sons of Belial; they knew not the LORD.

Judg 2:10 And also all that generation were gathered unto their fathers: and there arose another generation after them, which knew not the LORD, nor yet the works which he had done for Israel.

- A. The children have to get to know Him themselves.
- B. It is very easy for someone to sit in a church where some of the people know God and they never get acquainted with Him.

- C. But these kinds of situations are very dangerous because having a knowledge of God and then not serving Him is the road to being a reprobate.

Rom 1:21 Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.

Titus 1:16 They profess that they know God; but in works they deny him, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate.

2 Pet 2:20 For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning.

- D. A reprobate is not one who does not know, but one who knows and refuses.
1. It is one who is brought within sight of God and is exposed to the knowledge of God, but rejects a relationship with Him in favor of their own interests.
- E. How many times do you think a person can say no to God when brought within his reach?
1. Probably fewer times than you think.

- III. The message of the Gospel is to introduce people to God and bring them under the influence of the knowledge of God.

Hosea 4:1 Hear the word of the LORD, ye children of Israel: for the LORD hath a controversy with the inhabitants of the land, because there is no truth, nor mercy, nor knowledge of God in the land.

- A. Mercy and truth are an evidence of a knowledge of God.
1. Their absence is evidence of a lack of the knowledge of God.

Hosea 6:3 Then shall we know, if we follow on to know the LORD: his going forth is prepared as the morning; and he shall come unto us as the rain, as the latter and former rain unto the earth.

- B. Consistent, unwavering, unchanging steadiness in God's service is evidence of the knowledge of God.
1. Changing, compromising, instability, and wavering are evidence of the absence of the knowledge of God.

John 17:3 And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.

- C. When we know that we know Him we know that we have eternal life.

1 John 5:13 These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.

2 Pet 1:2 Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord,

- D. The message of the Gospel is also to warn them that those who "know not the Lord" are those who are going to be punished forever.

2 Th 1:7-9 And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power;