

# Three Ways You Can Know God

Ps 19

## Introduction:

1. The most important thing is to know God - not just know about God - but to know Him
2. If you truly know the God of the Bible then you will love Him.
  - a. If you truly love Him then you will trust Him
  - b. If you truly trust Him then you will obey Him
  - c. To obey God is to be blessed by Him
3. I want to be blessed don't you? It all begins with knowing God
4. Ps 19 tells us three ways that we can know God

## I. GOD'S WORD IN THE SKY - VS 1-6

1 The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork. 2 Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge. 3 *There is* no speech nor language, *where* their voice is not heard. 4 Their line is gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them hath he set a tabernacle for the sun, 5 Which *is* as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, *and* rejoiceth as a strong man to run a race. 6 His going forth *is* from the end of the heaven, and his circuit unto the ends of it: and there is nothing hid from the heat thereof.

- God has revealed Himself in creation
  - You can tell something about an artist by looking at his work
  - You can tell something about an architect by looking at his work
  - We can know something about God by looking at His creation
- We don't know when David wrote this psalm

- Maybe he was a shepherd boy lying on his back looking up into the starry Judean sky
- Maybe he was a king walking on the palace rooftop
- Maybe David was on the battlefield and one night looked up to the dark, starry sky
- Whenever it was, David saw God in the heavens

## **A. The Heavens Speak of God's Person - vs 1a**

### **1 The heavens declare the glory of God**

1. The heavens tell us of God's person - that God exists
2. All of creation speaks of God's existence
3. You can't have a creation without a Creator
4. Someone said, "God stepped from behind the curtain of nowhere onto the platform of nothing and spoke the universe into existence.
5. One evening some of Napoleon's soldiers were arguing whether or not God existed. Some said that God existed and others denied the existence of God. Napoleon was not a spiritual man, but he pointed up to the stars and said, "Gentlemen, before you deny the fact of God, you'll have to get rid of those." Though he was not a spiritual man, he certainly was no fool.
6. The heavens declare God's glory
  - a) *What about you and me?*
  - b) *Do we declare His glory?*

## **B. The Heavens Speak of God's Power - vs 1b**

### **1 The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork.**

1. What mighty power is demonstrated in this universe
2. Man can't create anything - all that men can do is rearrange what God has already created

3. Think of the speed of light.

a) *Light travels at the speed of 186,282 miles/sec*

b) *It takes 1.5 seconds for light to travel from here to the moon*

c) *In a little over 9 minutes light travels from here to the sun*

d) *It would take light 4.5 years to make it to the next star*

e) *If light traveled 10 billion years it would not have reached the edge of the universe.*

### **c. The Heavens Speak of God's Purpose - vs 2**

**2 Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge.**

1. This verse tells us that we live in a universe of order

2. Night follows day and day follows night.

3. Our earth rotating on its axis makes day and night.

4. Earth revolving around the sun makes the year

5. No one here got up before daylight and wondered if the sun was going to rise today

6. Aristotle said, "The beauty, the order and the harmony of the universe is but an expression of the will of God."

7. I don't put much credence in the laws of nature. They are the laws of God that nature obeys.

8. Just as the sun rises in the east every morning and sets in the west every evening even so God is faithful and consistent.

9. You can count on Him to keep His Word

### **D. The Heavens Speak of God's Presence - vs 3-6**

**3 There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard. 4 Their line is gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them hath he set a tabernacle for the sun, 5 Which is as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, and rejoiceth as a strong man to**

run a race. 6 His going forth *is* from the end of the heaven, and his circuit unto the ends of it: and there is nothing hid from the heat thereof.

1. The God's handiwork speaks a universal language that everyone understands
2. The knowledge of God is everywhere and if one doesn't believe in God he is without excuse - Rom 1:19-20  
19 Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed *it* unto them. 20 For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, *even* his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:
3. The universe has a stamp on it - "Made by God"

Not only do we see God's Word in the sky, but we also see....

## **II. GOD'S WORD IN THE SCRIPTURES**

- God's Word is written in the sky and that is one way to know God's power and omnipotence
- But that's not enough - God reveals Himself in the Scriptures

### **A. The Scriptures are Perfect - vs 7a**

7 The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple.

1. David believed in the inerrancy of Scripture
2. God gave the Scriptures through inspiration - every syllable, every jot, every tittle, every word is put there by the mind and purpose of God
3. The presence of God is revealed in the skies but I doubt that anyone can be saved by studying the stars
4. But the Scriptures reveal the grace of God
5. The skies reveal the glory of God and the Scriptures reveal the grace

of God

### **B. The Scriptures are Plain - 7b**

7b ...the testimony of the LORD *is* sure, making wise the simple.

1. The Word of God is so plain that even a simple person can understand enough to be saved
2. You don't have to be a Ph.D. to understand the Bible

### **C. The Scriptures are Pleasing - vs 8a**

8a The statutes of the LORD *are* right, rejoicing the heart....

1. Right = straight, not leading down the wrong path
2. Oh what joy there is in the Word of God
3. How the saints of the past and the heroes of days gone by have delighted in God's Word as they walked through the chilly waters of death
4. How many martyrs have held the Bible close as the flames devoured them?

### **D. The Scriptures are Pure - vs 8b**

8b ...the commandment of the LORD *is* pure, enlightening the eyes.

1. We live in a day of so many philosophies and ideas that are wrong
2. But in the Bible there is no mixture of evil
3. We can trust the purity of God's Word
4. Someone said that there are 6000 promises in God's Word, I've never counted them, but none of the promises has ever been broken

### **E. The Scriptures are Permanent - vs 9**

9 The fear of the LORD *is* clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the LORD *are* true *and* righteous altogether.

1. God's Word is never out of date

2. The Scriptures apply to every age and they apply to every circumstance
3. Show me another book that is 2000 yrs old that is still relevant for people in 2015

### ***F. The Scriptures are Precious - vs 10***

10 More to be desired *are they* than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb.

1. True believers find God's Word to be precious
2. Those who love God will also love his Word
3. The Word of God is worth more than much fine gold

### ***G. The Scriptures are Protective - vs 11a***

11a Moreover by them is thy servant warned....

1. If you want to stay out of trouble, stay close to God's Word
2. Do you want to live a holy, godly life then listen to the warnings of God's Word
3. "A West Virginia State Trooper stopped a woman for going 15 miles over the speed limit. After he handed her a ticket, she asked him, "Don't you give out warnings?"  
"Yes, ma'am," he replied. "They're all up and down the road. They say, 'Speed Limit 55.'" (from Readers Digest, "All In a Day's Work", by Patricia Greenlee)

This story reminds me that one day we will stand before the great Judge. There are many people who expect they will receive merely a "warning" and then they will be given an opportunity to try again. The response on that day will be, "I gave out plenty of warnings -- all through your life -- but you ignored them all."

Remember the rich man in Luke 16 who died and went to Hades? He begged for a messenger to be sent back as a warning to his brothers.

The response he got was this: "They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them....If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded though one rise from the dead." (Luke 16:29,31)

The warnings are there, all over the road. If we ignore the warnings and live the way we want to live rather than for the glory of God, then we shouldn't be surprised when the punishment is issued on the Last Day.

The warnings are there -- listen and heed them.

## **H. The Scriptures are Profitable - 11b**

**11b ... and in keeping of them there is great reward.**

1. The Word of God will help the believer avoid evil in his life - it will protect him
2. God's Word will also point you in the right direction - the life that pleases God
3. Want rewards from the Lord someday, then stick close to God's Word

God's Word in the Sky... God's Word in the Scriptures...

## **III. GOD'S WORD IN THE SPIRIT**

- God speaks in the sky - that is creation
- God speaks in the Scriptures - that is revelation
- But without the work of the Spirit creation and revelation won't help a person
- God's Spirit takes the message of creation and the message of revelation and applies it to the heart
- Notice four things in these verses that the Spirit does

## **A. The Conviction of the Spirit - vs 12a**

## 12a Who can understand *his* errors?...

1. We can't judge ourselves properly
2. But the Spirit of God can put His finger on your sins and mine - that is conviction
3. No one is saved without the work of God's Spirit  
Joh 16:8 And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:
4. "Well, if I know my heart...." The problem is that we don't know our hearts.

## B. *The Cleansing of the Spirit - vs 12b*

### 12b ... cleanse thou me from secret *faults*.

1. By the Spirit we confess our sins and repent of them and are cleansed of our sins
2. The Holy Spirit uses divine detergent when He convicts us - He cleanses us
3. David wanted to be cleansed - Ps 139:23-24  
23 Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: 24 And see if *there be any* wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

## C. *The Control of the Spirit - vs 13*

13 Keep back thy servant also from presumptuous *sins*; let them not have dominion over me: then shall I be upright, and I shall be innocent from the great transgression.

1. Presumptuous sins are deliberate or willful sins
2. He convicts us and cleanses us but the Spirit also controls us
3. Walk in the Spirit and you won't fulfill the lusts of the flesh
4. Do you want to walk in victory? Then let the Holy Spirit control you.
5. How sad when a believer is dominated and controlled by sin

Eph 5:18 And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit;

6. Filled with the Spirit means controlled by the Spirit

#### **D. The Communion of the Spirit**

14 Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer.

1. To know God is to walk with Him, talk with Him, commune with him
2. We can know God through His Word in the sky - “the heavens declare the glory of God” - vs 1
3. We can know God through His Word in the Scriptures - “the law of the Lord is perfect” - vs 7
4. This prayer ought to be on our lips often
  - a) *We need to have a deep longing and desire to please Him*
  - b) *When the words are right and the heart is right, then the actions will be right*
  - c) *Sinful acts start with sinful thoughts*

Conclusion:

1. If people refuse to believe in God it is not because there is not abundant evidence
2. There is no excuse for not knowing God
  - a. God’s Word in the Sky
  - b. God’s Word in the Scriptures
  - c. God’s Word in the Spirit
3. Do you know Him?