



# Mighty in the Word

For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness;  
But unto us which are saved it is the power of God" (1 Cor. 1.18).

Edifying the Body of Christ (Eph. 4.10-16)

The Wise Still Seek Him

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## What Is It You Seek?

Knowledge or Jesus?

**A**ny seek knowledge as John Five explains. We often hear that knowledge is power. We see this lived with those who seek knowledge from the Bible thinking it will give them power to spew Bible verses (*usually out of context and without understanding*). Many of us have heard those people use the Bible as a weapon against others trying to manipulate others and control them.

When we read the following scriptures (Romans 1.28-32; I Corinthians 8.1-3; II Th 2.13-17; I Timothy 1.3-7; 6.1-6; II Timothy 2.14-23; Titus 3.8-11), we are reminded of what we have recently written about the seeking of those false Christs, false teachers, false preachers, false Christians – instead of the Lord Jesus Christ. John 5.43 and 44 address this as in the scriptures we have put before you from others books of the Bible.

Now, the people who are false themselves are being confronted concerning their motive for seeking knowledge.

And ye have not his word abiding in you: for whom he hath sent, him ye believe not.  
Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.

And ye will not come to me, that ye might have life.

I receive not honour from men.

But I know you, that ye have not the love of God in you.

I am come in my Father's name, and ye receive me not: if another shall come in his own name, him ye will receive.

How can ye believe, which receive honour one of another, and seek not the honour that [cometh] from God only? (Jn 5.38-44)

Sadly people believe they can manipulate the Word of the Lord as they quote scriptures out of context, and using a version that suits their needs – and all to manipulate people to accomplish their agenda. Oh, the sadness in this as people are mocking the Word of the Lord God as they misappropriate the Word of God for their benefit.

The Word of the Lord makes it clear that the Lord Jesus Christ knows them, knows their hearts, knows that they have not The Love of God in them. The Lord also makes clear that He knows they are not His followers as they have not the love of God in them; they have not received the Lord as their Lord and Savior, but look to

Way of the Cross to which we are called to walk. We must seek Jesus Christ daily in what He wants of us as His servants that when people come to us saying, "We would see Jesus" (Jn 12.21), we will be able to show them the way to Jesus Christ and come to know Him as Lord and Savior, to come to know Him personally, and to know of His great love for them. Seeking Jesus is to surrender our lives to Him, to live for Him Who died for us and rose victoriously over sin, hell, and the grave. Are you seeking Jesus Christ? Have you surrendered your life to Him and given to Him your all?

All to Jesus I surrender,  
All to Him, I freely give.  
I will ever love and trust Him,  
In His presence daily live.

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Come apart and rest (Mark 6.31).

others and seek from others what they can get from them to benefit them in their daily lives.

This is sad as they are rejecting the Lord Jesus Christ; they are rejecting Him as Lord and Savior. They are walking away from His love and grace and mercy, and are walking with the enemy and his followers.

Some would have you believe they are seeking knowledge, but their agenda for doing so is not to learn of Jesus; it is not to walk with Him and live for Him a life of holiness.

Rom 1:28 And even as they did not like to retain God in *[their]* knowledge<sup>1922</sup>, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient;

Rom 10:2 For I bear them record that they have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge.

1Co 8:1 Now as touching things offered unto idols, we know that we all have knowledge. Knowledge<sup>1108</sup> puffeth up, but charity edifieth.

So many seem to be seeking for knowledge, but they are endeavoring to show that they believe their intelligence and understanding is above others. It is dealing with conceit, and not seeking knowledge, especially about Jesus Christ and His Holy Word. All too often the gleaning of information is to accumulate information, information they may not understand or know how to disseminate. They have little understanding of what it is to know

I am reminded of the Hebrew understanding of knowing, which is an intimate knowledge. There is a difference in "knowing about" someone and "knowing" someone. Those seeking knowledge are seeking to glean facts about someone or some event. It is like they have a data base in their head that they want to enlarge versus those seeking to know someone that they might be strengthened in that relationship. Knowing Jesus Christ is, and knowing about Jesus Christ, are on opposite ends of a spectrum.

Remember when the crowd sought Jesus Christ in the garden (Jn 18.4, 7) to crucify Him? The question was asked of the crowd, "Whom seek ye?" "And they said, Jesus of Nazareth."

Obviously they had heard about Jesus, knew about Him; however, they did not **know** Him or they would have recognized Him, they would have known the presence of the Lord.

I am reminded of John 12.21 when some Greeks came to worship as is translated from the Greek language. The Greek language gives to us the understanding that some came to show their reverence. The word used in this verse is explained in the Greek language as those who would kiss the hand of someone to whom they would offer reverence, or bring gifts. The understanding is not worship but reverence for another religion. In those days it was much like today, as Albert Barnes (1798-1870) writes:

Lightfoot has shown that the surrounding pagans were accustomed not only to send presents, sacrifices, and offerings to the temple, but that they also frequently attended the great feasts of the Jews. Hence, the outer court of the temple was called the court of the Gentiles.

And there were certain Greeks among them that came up to worship at the feast: The same came therefore to Philip, which was of Bethsaida of Galilee, and desired him, saying, Sir, we would see Jesus (Jn 12.20, 21).

The word *see* in this verse also means to get knowledge, to understand. It seems they, though possibly pagans, wanted to meet Jesus, and converse with Him concerning all that they had heard and seen. They were not interested in gaining information from others, but wanted to go straight to the person about Whom they had heard. Remember Zacchaeus who wanted to "see" Jesus, and became a follower of Him through that experience. Miracles were all around them, experiences that possibly drew them to wanting to meet Jesus. There are those who just want information, but there are those whose hearts are pricked by the presence of the Lord Jesus Christ, and they want to *see* Jesus.

Oh, that we might take seriously living for Jesus, a life of holiness, that would draw people to wanting to *see* Jesus as they see Jesus Christ in us, lived out in our lives.

There are those who just seek information to add to their repertoire of information, and then add the name Jesus to their religion of multi-gods. However, there are those hungry who are seeking Jesus Christ, the only Begotten Son of the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob (of Israel) – not knowledge, information, about Him.

We need to be seeking Jesus Christ in our lives every day, seeking to live for Him that others would see Jesus in us. We need to be in the Word of the Lord, the Holy Bible that we would know, intimately know His Word and be able to share the Truth of the Lord from it that others shall come to know Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. We need to be living a life for Jesus because of our love for Him Who died for us, praying that others would seek Jesus Christ, and that we would be able to lead them to "see Jesus," to come to know Him, repent of their sins, and ask Jesus Christ to come into their lives to live.

Perhaps, there are some who need to "see Jesus" that are in your circle of friends, your family, co-workers. Are you living a life for Jesus at home, at work, out in the community? Do others come to you saying as did the Greeks, "I want to *see* Jesus"? Are you able to lead them to Jesus Christ?

Perhaps the question is, "Are you seeking knowledge or are you seeking Jesus Christ?" How long since you read the Word of God, the Holy Bible? Are you reading the Holy Bible daily that you might walk with the Lord in holiness as He calls each of us to walk? Some have responded to us, when we ask if they are reading the Bible daily, with "Oh, I read a daily devotional book. I am just fine." We must be reading the Holy Bible daily to know the *Way*, the *Via Dolorosa*, the