

Family Items



A Clipboard of News for God's Family at Jones Road

Sick:

- ◇ Continue to remember **Bobby and Carol Abernathy...Jane Ola Hinkle...Exie Pepper...Ruth Peete...Marshall Pepper...**
- ◇ **Jeanette Newby** is at Limestone Manor, room 99.

Miscellaneous:

- ◇ We appreciate all who came out to work around the building yesterday.
- ◇ Our meeting with David Thomley is only two weeks away. Advertisements are in the foyer and everyone is encouraged to pick some up and spread the word.

Travelers:

- ◇ ...

Meetings:

- ◇ Bible drill at 4:30 P.M. today.
- ◇ **Jones Road:** July 15-20 with David Thomley.
- ◇ Check the board for details regarding a special series of studies for teens and young adults July 21 at **Hughes Road.**

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| We Meet... | Elders |
| Sunday Morning 9:30 A.M. Sunday Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday Evening 7:00 P.M | Mike Huggins Steve Leverette Daryl Turner |
| Deacons | Evangelist |
| Marcus Dean Ron Flatt John Harris | John R. Gibson |



Jones Road Journal

July 1, 2018

Who Is God? (Part 1)

By John R. Gibson

[Editor's note: Taken from "In the Beginning" Studies in Genesis, copyright 2018, Truth Publications.]

"And this is eternal life, *that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.*" John 17:3

"When the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven...in flaming fire taking vengeance on *those who do not know God*, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ." 2 Thessalonians 1:7-8

"Now by this we know that *we know Him*, if we keep His commandments. He who says, 'I know Him,' and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him." 1 John 2:3-4

"Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! Therefore the world does not know us, *because it did not know Him.*" 1 John 3:1

"Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and *everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. He who does not love does not know God, for God is love.*" 1 John 4:7-8

"For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you should abstain from sexual immorality; that each of you should know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor, not in passion of lust, *like the Gentiles who do not know God...*" 1 Thessalonians 4:3-5

The question of "Who is God?" must not be an academic exercise limited to the studies of theologians, for to know God is to gain eternal life, while failure to know Him leads to His eternal vengeance. Do we see that in the verses above knowing God is said to have a practical impact on one's morality, love for others, and overall approach to the Scriptures and the commandments found therein? While there are things about the one "dwelling in unapproachable light" (1 Timothy 6:16) that we cannot know, what we need to know about God has been revealed and therefore can and should be known by His children (2 Timothy 3:16-17). Time

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spent learning about the nature of God will be time well-spent and to know God in His fullness requires study and consideration of the entirety of His revelation, though in this study we will limit our focus to Genesis, the book of beginnings, and how it reveals to us the God whom we must come to know.

Pre-existent

Think about the significance of the Bible opening with “In the beginning God...” (1:1). When our world began He was already there and always had been. As Psalm 90:1 puts it, He is “from everlasting to everlasting” and that has a number of practical implications and applications for us. Think of how in our political system rulers are limited by terms of office (or length of life in the Supreme Court) and we can find ourselves trying to “wait it out” with those we don’t like, or on the other hand, on the outside looking in when “our” favorites leave office. But with the pre-existent God who is not defined or limited by time, we will not be able to wait Him out and hope for a more tolerant ruler to come along. While that thought is sobering, there is a blessed assurance in knowing He will always be there for the faithful (cf. Hebrews 13:5).

Creator

Perhaps the first thing that comes to mind when we think of God in Genesis is His role as Creator. While we should reject the evolutionary “Big Bang theory,” the book does open with a bang as the Almighty¹ displays His power with two complementary accounts of His work as the Creator of all things.

When we see the cosmos we should be in awe of Him and His power, for He simply speaks and things come into existence. One may choose to ignore God or even deny His existence, but this marvelous creation with its order and design deny us any justification for so doing (cf. Romans 1:20). To know God as Creator is also to know that we are not mere animals allowed to live by instinct and our concern for self-preservation, but as creatures made in His image we are to live by a higher standard (1:26-28). This awareness will also change the way we view others (9:6). While another lecture will focus on the nature of man, let’s begin with the realization that we can’t know ourselves unless we know our Creator.

In the creation account of chapter two we see God as more than the Creator of a universe, but as the one who created and governs the family arrangement. So much sin and suffering in our time is directly traceable to the rejection of God as the Creator and Ruler of marriage and the family. Don’t miss the fact that when Jesus was questioned about divorce, He looked back to the beginning and the creation accounts of Genesis 1, 2 (Matthew 19:3-9; Mark 10:1-8). The practicality of knowing God as Creator is further demonstrated when we note that on two different occasions, when discussing the roles and relationships of men and women, Paul referenced the creation account of Genesis 2 (1 Corinthians 11:8-9; 1 Timothy

2:13).

Footnotes:

¹While God is called the Almighty six times in Genesis (17:1; 28:3; 35:11; 43:14; 48:3; 49:25), I chose not to discuss this characteristic of God as a separate quality because I felt that the All-Powerful nature of God was brought out in several of the different qualities studied in this lecture.

(To be continued.)

All Scripture quotations are taken from the New King James Version, copyright 1995, Thomas Nelson Publishing, Inc.

Readings for July 1-7

1 Kings 10-11; 2 Chron. 9; 1 Timothy 6 / Ecclesiastes 1-3; Psa. 45;
2 Tim. 1 / Eccl. 4-6; Psa. 125; 2 Tim. 2 / Eccl. 7-9; Psa. 46;
2 Tim. 3 / Eccl. 10-12; 2 Tim. 4

Privileged to Serve

SUNDAY AM

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| Announcements: Steve Leverette | Song Leader: John Sugg |
| Opening Prayer: Everette Conn | Lord’s Supper: Chad Smith |
| Serving Lord’s Supper: Wade P. Tracy S. Royce W. Bradley C. Marcus D. Ron F. Lance H. John M. H. | Closing Prayer: David Conn |
| Sermon: John Gibson | Count Contribution: Aaron Gabardi Don Alexander |

SUNDAY PM

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| Announcements: Nathan Pepper | Song Leader: Mike Huggins |
| Scripture Reading: Drake Richter | Opening Prayer: James Hough |
| Sermon: John Gibson Coulter Broadway | Lord’s Supper: Rodney Peete |
| | Closing Prayer: Rodney Peete |

WEDNESDAY PM

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|---|------------------------------------|
| Announcements: John Harris | Song Leader: David Conn |
| Invitation: Paul Hutcheson | Closing Prayer: Aaron Banta |
| Sound Booth: Adam T. / Nathan P. | Ushers: Tracy S. David H. |