

## **Theology Proper**

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- I. Why Study About God?
- a. Purpose: As an introduction to our series we need to consider why should we study about God, God's work and God's attributes?
  - b. Knowing God is something highly prized: (**Jeremiah 9:23-24**)
    - i. Passage: *"<sup>23</sup> This is what the LORD says: "Let not the wise boast of their wisdom or the strong boast of their strength or the rich boast of their riches, <sup>24</sup> but let the one who boasts boast about this: that they have the understanding to know me, that I am the LORD, who exercises kindness, justice and righteousness on earth, for in these I delight," declares the LORD."*
    - ii. Proof:
      1. Note **verse 23** compares different reasons that people boast:
        - a. "their wisdom"
        - b. "their strength"
        - c. their riches
      2. All the boasts is about them; note the use of "their"
      3. **Verse 24** notes that God wants us to boast in something else: *"but let the one who boasts boast about this: that they have the understanding to know me,"*
        - a. "but" is in contrast to all the other boasts
        - b. What is boast is the thing that is valued.
        - c. What is valued? *"that they have the understanding to know me,"*
      4. Note that the second half of **verse 24** lists God's attributes. **Can you list some of them?**
    - iii. Practice:
      1. Do you value knowing God?
      2. Are you willing to spend time and money to get resources to know God more?
  - c. Knowing God is eternal life (**John 17:3**)
    - i. Passage: *"Now this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent."*
    - ii. Proof:
      1. In context **John 17** is Jesus' priestly prayer for His followers.
      2. Here in **verse 3** Jesus tells us what eternal life means: *"know you, the only true God,"*
    - iii. Practice:
      1. Is salvation more than just going to heaven for you?
      2. Do you understand that eternal life begins now—with knowing Him?
  - d. We must know God truthfully in order to worship Him in a way that pleases Him: (**John 4:24**)
    - i. Passage: *"God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth."*
    - ii. Proof:
      1. Note a qualification of worshipping God require it be "truth."
      2. We know truths about God if we are going to worship Him rightly.
    - iii. Practice: Please Him!
  - e. We must study about God in order to be Holy

- i. Passage: “*but [a]like the Holy One who called you, [b]be holy yourselves also in all your behavior; 16 because it is written, “You shall be holy, for I am holy.”*” (1 Peter 1:15-16)
  - ii. Proof:
    - 1. God wants us to be Holy to reflect Him.
    - 2. How do we know what holiness like Him means if we first don’t study His holiness?
  - iii. Practice:
    - 1. Our study of God must never be a sterile academic pursuit.
    - 2. Study God with the intent of being motivated to be more Godly!
- f. God wants the world to have knowledge of Him
- i. Proof:
    - 1. “*They will not hurt or destroy in all My holy mountain, For the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD As the waters cover the sea.*” (Isaiah 11:9)
    - 2. “*For the earth will be filled With the knowledge of the glory of the LORD, As the waters cover the sea.*” (Habakkuk 2:14)
  - ii. Practice: Do you see the importance of knowing and sharing your knowledge of God to others?