

Good News: Known by God and to Know God

Ex. 33:12ff.; Phil. 3:10ff.

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The Scriptures are full of examples of people who met with God, who had a relationship with God, who walked with God, who were considered friends with God. Here's a brief list –

Adam & Eve, met with the LORD, Gen. 2-3

Enoch walked with God, Gen. 5:22-24

God spoke with Noah, Gen. 6-9

We read that Noah found favour with God, Gen. 6:8.

We also read that God protected Noah and his family, 2 Peter 2:5.

God spoke with Abraham, Gen. 12-25

God blessed Abraham, Gen. 12:1-3.

God reassured Abraham of his future reward, Gen. 15.

God changed his name, Gen. 17:5.

God made a covenant with Abraham, Gen. 17:9.

God met with Abraham prior to destroying S & G, Gen. 18.

God spoke to Job, Job 38-41

God blessed Isaac, Gen. 25:11; 26:12. God answered Isaac's prayer on behalf of Rebekah, Gen. 25:21. The LORD appeared to Isaac, Gen. 26:2.

God spoke to Jakob, Gen. 28:13-15; 31:3, 12-13; 35:1, 10-12; 46:2-4

God answered Jakob's prayer, Gen. 32:9-12; 24-30.

God's angels met with Jakob, Gen. 32:1.

God opened Leah's womb, Gen. 29:31; 30:17.

God remembered Rachel, Gen. 30:22.

God was with Joseph in the midst of his suffering, Gen. 39:1-2, 5, 21-23,

God spoke with Moses face to face, Exodus to Deut. – see Ex. 3; Numb. 12:6-8; Dt. 34:10

God spoke to the Nation of Israel through Moses and the OT prophets, Ex. 6:6-8

God spoke to Pharaoh through Moses, Ex. 7:16-18 and many times afterward

God spoke to David through Nathan the prophet and Solomon, 2 Sam. 2; 5; 7; 1 Kings 3:3-14; 9:2-9.

God spoke to the prophets, Heb. 1:1-2.

God spoke to Mary, Joseph, Elizabeth and Zacharias, Matt. 1; Luke 1-2.

God spoke to John the Baptist, John 1:31-34.

God spoke to Paul, Acts 9; 18; 23.

Known by God

To be known by God is to love God and be loved by God, 1 Cor. 8:3; Gal. 4:8-9.

To be known by God is to be cared for by God, Psalm 8; 95:7; 144:3; Matt. 6:25ff.; 1 Peter 5:7.

To be known by God is to be blessed by God, Psalm 1; 32:1; Matt. 5:1-12.

To be known by God is to be forgiven by God, Psalm 32:1, 1 John 1:9.

To be known by God is to be trusted with His work in the midst of our weaknesses, 2 Cor. 4:7.

To be known by God is to be given opportunity to suffer for God, Phil. 1:29.

To be known by God is to benefit from His faithful love and righteousness, Psalm 36:10.

To be known by God is to realize that God sees us in our weaknesses and we welcome His scrutiny and judgment upon our lives, Psalm 139:1.

To be known by God is to be disciplined by God, Prov. 12:1

To Know God

To know God is to long to get to know Him better, Phil. 3:10ff.

To know God is to walk with God and to learn from God, just as Enoch, Noah and other OT saints did, Gen. 5:21-24; 6:8-9; Job 1:1.

To know God is to obey God, not because we understand God completely, rather because we know that what God expects is good for us, Gen. 45:4-8; 50:19-21.

To know God is to worship Him, Deut. 6:13; 1 Chron. 16:29; Psalm 27:4; 29:2; 95:6; Zeph. 2:11; John 4:23-24; Rev. 14:17; 15:4.

To know God is to petition Him on behalf of others and in regards to our needs, Heb. 13:18; James 5:13, 16.

To know God is to fellowship with Him, 1 John 1:1-7.

To know God is to look out for the needy, Jer. 22:16.

To know God is to recognize His kindness, justice and righteousness, Jer. 9:23-24.

To know God is to exercise justice, mercy and humility, Micah 6:8.

To know God is to enjoy eternal life as a quality of life now, John 17:3.

To know God is to enjoy peace and rest, Isa. 26:3; Jer. 6:16; Matt. 11:28-30.

To know God is to not delight in sin, 1 John 3:6.

To know God is to seek Him for wisdom and understanding, 2 Chron. 1:10-12; Col. 1:9.

To know God is to have a healthy fear of God, Job 5:17; Prov. 1:7; 2:5-6; 9:10.

To know God is to live by faith, Heb. 11:6; Eccl. 2:26.

To know God is to represent Him rightly, Zech. 8:16; Mal. 2:4-7; 2 Cor. 2:14.

To know God is to live in Holiness and godliness, Romans 6:19-23; Titus 1:1; 2 Peter 1:3.

To know God is to receive joy, grace and peace, Isa. 52:7; 57:19; 66:12; Nahum 1:15; John 14:27; Romans 15:13; Gal. 5:22; Phil. 4:7; 2 Peter 1:2; 3:18.

Conclusion

God has revealed Himself to us so that we might know Him intimately. God created us and understands us in our sinfulness and our longings. He created us for a purpose. That purpose is that we would live life as God intended, with abundant joy. As we commune with God, we experience peace and contentment. This is part of the eternal life God wants you to enjoy every day. God's model in the person of His Son provides us with a living example of what it means to know God and be known by God, John 17.