

A person wearing a light-colored, long-sleeved robe and a head covering, seen from behind, stands on a dirt path. A large, shaggy, light-colored animal, likely a donkey or mule, is in the foreground. The background features a steep, rocky hillside under a bright, hazy sky. The overall scene is set in a desert or mountainous region.

BE KNOW DO

A BOOK FOR PASTORS

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Chapter I

KNOWING JESUS

The first thing that anyone who desires to be a pastor must know is who Jesus really is, without any doubt. Jesus posed the question to His disciples, *Whom do men say that I the Son of man am?* He knew this was a question that needed to be answered. Everything you will do as a pastor will flow from your knowledge of who Jesus is.

Remember, Jesus called you, and you will need to know Him. One cannot preach the true gospel without knowing who Jesus is, for the gospel is the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. It is the life of Christ. According to Jesus (John 16:13), only the Spirit of truth can guide you into all truth. If you do not know who Jesus is, you cannot pastor His flock because the sheep will not hear you. If you know Him only in part, you do not have enough; you must know Him in His fullness. When you know Jesus is God manifested in flesh (1 Timothy 3:16) and that in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily (Colossians 2:8-9), things begin to fall into place for you to lead His people.

This is not a church or organizational truth; it is a biblical truth. When Moses called the children of Israel to remembrance before they entered the Promised Land, he proclaimed, *Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD* (Deuteronomy 6:4). There is only one Lord.

Paul would make this clear as he said, *But to us there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we in him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we by him* (1 Corinthians 8:6). He explained further, *Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost* (1 Corinthians 12:3). There is but one God, and His name is Jesus. When we know Him, all things flow that pertain to leadership, development, doctrine, and any other areas you may desire to fill as a pastor. Without Him we certainly can do nothing (John 15:5).

The prophet Isaiah relayed God's message of truth:

Ye are my witnesses, saith the LORD, and my servant whom I have chosen: that ye may know and believe me, and understand that I am he: before me there was no God formed, neither shall there be after me. I, even I, am the LORD; and beside me there is no saviour. I have declared, and have saved, and I have shewed, when there was no strange god among you: therefore ye are my witnesses, saith the LORD, that I am God (Isaiah 43:10-12).

When the religious leaders questioned Peter and John about the healing of the lame man at the Gate Beautiful, Scripture records:

Then Peter, filled with the Holy Ghost, said unto them, Ye rulers of the people, and elders of Israel, if we this day be examined of the good deed done to

the impotent man, by what means he is made whole; be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by him doth this man stand here before you whole. This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner. Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved (Acts 4:8-12).

Do you know Him?

The apostle John affirmed:

For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one. And there are three that bear witness in earth, the Spirit, and the water, and the blood: and these three agree in one (1 John 5:7-8).

Notice that three bear record in heaven—the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost—and he says they are one. In other words, there is no separation or division in God. He is one.

Some people do not know who God is. Therefore, you have been chosen by God to be a witness, a pastor of His flock, to lead and guide them into all truth. The knowledge of God is good understanding. God wants us to know Him first and foremost, above all things. Do you know Him?

Remember, in John 14:6 Jesus proclaimed, *I am the way, the truth, and the life*. Jesus is the truth, and the Holy

Ghost is the Spirit of truth that will guide you into all truth. With this revelation, we can understand through the Scripture that Jesus is the Father from the beginning of Creation, the Word manifest as the Son in redemption for fallen mankind (flesh), and the Holy Ghost in operation through the Spirit of truth. Therefore, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost all agree in one, Jesus Christ. As the apostle John again admonished, *And we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, even in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life* (1 John 5:20).

Everything you do and teach as a pastor will flow from your knowledge and understanding of this amazing mystery of the truth: God manifested in flesh. Do you know Him?

And the child Samuel ministered unto the LORD before Eli. And the word of the LORD was precious in those days; there was no open vision. And it came to pass at that time, when Eli was laid down in his place, and his eyes began to wax dim, that he could not see; and ere the lamp of God went out in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was, and Samuel was laid down to sleep; that the LORD called Samuel: and he answered, Here am I. And he ran unto Eli, and said, Here am I; for thou calledst me. And he said, I called not; lie down again. And he went and lay down. And the LORD called yet again, Samuel. And Samuel arose and went to Eli, and said, Here am I; for thou didst call me. And he answered, I called not, my son; lie down again. Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, neither was the word of the LORD yet revealed unto him. And the LORD called Samuel again the third time. And he arose and went to Eli, and said, Here am I; for thou didst call me. And Eli perceived that the LORD had called the child. Therefore Eli said unto Samuel, Go, lie down: and it shall be, if he call thee, that thou shalt say, Speak, LORD; for thy servant heareth. So Samuel went and lay down in his place. And the LORD came, and stood, and called as at other times, Samuel, Samuel. Then Samuel answered, Speak; for thy servant heareth.

(1 Samuel 3:1-10)