

Grace Bible Church
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Tree of Life
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Knowing the Lord is achieved by knowing the doctrine of the Essence of God or the doctrine of Divine attributes.

One of the most important principles of doctrine when it comes to Knowing the Lord is the doctrine of the Essence of God or the Doctrine of Divine attributes as they relate to principle of knowing who God is and knowing what God has done.

Knowing the Lord is achieved by knowing the doctrine of the Essence of God or the doctrine of Divine attributes. For as the apostle Paul stated as they relate to principle of knowing who God is and knowing what He has done.

In our corrected translation of **PHI 3:7-21**, **But whatever quality of things were gains to me, those things [gains] I have concluded as an expert as loss for the sake of Christ. Not only this but more than this, I conclude as an expert all things [Paul's pre-salvation human celebrityship and achievement] to be loss [singular]**

Why?

Because of the surpassing greatness of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have forfeited all things, also, I keep on concluding as an expert them to be piles of dung in order that I

may win for Christ, and that I may be found in Him, not having my own righteousness derived from the source of the Law, that [righteousness] which is acquired by means of faith in Christ, the righteousness which comes from the source of the God at the point of faith,

that I may come to know Him, and the power of [behind] His resurrection and the participation of His sufferings, being conformed to His death; if, in some way, I may attain to the resurrection life away from the dead ones spiritually speaking.

Not that I have already obtained it [the resurrection life or the ultra supergrace status], or have already reached the objective, I continue pressing on that I may attain that [or overtake that, or gain that, arrive at the objective] on account of which I was overtaken by Christ Jesus. Brethren [members of the Royal Family of God],

I evaluate myself as not yet having attained the objective [ultra-supergrace or the ultimate objective in time, living in resurrection life]; one thing I concentrate upon: constantly forgetting the things that lie behind and pursuing vigorously to what lies ahead, I keep

on pressing on toward the objective for the purpose of the reward belonging to the upward call of God [Father], by means of Christ Jesus. Therefore, as many as are spiritually mature, let us have this attitude, in fact, if in anything you have a different attitude,

the God will also reveal that to you. However, the status to which we have attained [that is the spiritual growth from our discipline toward perception, metabolization and application of doctrine] let us keep marching or advancing in. Brethren [members of the royal family], be co-imitators of me, and be having respect for the same ones, who constantly walk according to the pattern you have in us.

For many keep walking, concerning whom I have warned you many times, and now continue to affirm, even weeping, the enemies of the cross of Christ, whose termination is destruction, whose god is their emotion, and whose time of glory will be a momentary time of shame, who keep thinking about earthly things.

For our citizenship [politeuma, or heavenly privilege] exists in heaven, from which place we eagerly anticipate the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ; who will transform the body of our humble station into conformity with the body of His glory, from which operational power that He and only He keeps on being able even to bring under authority all things to Himself.

Now this is a fantastic passage that has many of the doctrines we have studied concerning the Supreme Court of Heaven (SCOH).

We need to note the attributes of God. It is one thing to accept all these divine attributes as truth but it is another thing to act upon it. It is the permanence of God's character that guarantees the fulfillment of all His promises. Therefore, let's look at this principle of doctrine.

First, what are the attributes of the Lord? The attributes or the essence of God, God is:

1. Just
2. Righteous
3. Love
4. Immutability
5. Eternity

The attributes or the essence of God is also:

6. Omniscience
7. Omnipotence
8. Omnipresent
9. Veracity
10. Sovereignty

Think with me for a moment, how do these divine attributes all work together within the believer or for the believer.

God is just and as the Supreme Court Judge always makes decisions based upon His Justice or Him being just.

God is also perfect Righteous (+R) and as the Supreme Court Judge He always makes decisions based upon His righteousness or Him being right.

God is Love and as the Supreme Court Judge He always makes decisions based upon His Love because His righteousness and justice have been satisfied.

God is immutable, He does not change and as the Supreme Court Judge He always makes decisions based upon His faithfulness always being there.

God is Eternal and as the Supreme Court Judge He always makes decisions based upon His eternal purpose and destiny.

God has omniscience and as the Supreme Court Judge He always makes decisions based upon His knowledge of what is best for us.

God is omnipotence and as the Supreme Court Judge He always makes decisions based upon His power and ability to accomplish all that He wills and desires.

God is omnipresent and as the Supreme Court Judge He is always abiding in you and is with you.

God is also truth or veracity and as the Supreme Court Judge He always makes decisions based upon truth and no lies.

God is also Sovereign and as the Supreme Court Judge He always makes decisions based upon “what He wills” or “His perfect will.

Just think of the different “omni’s” the Lord uses to fulfill His plan. His omniscience knows everything about you. His omnipotence has the power to do all things. His omnipresence is always within you.

ISA 54:4-10 has an application to us though it was said to the Jews, think how more applicable it is to the Church.

ISA 54:1-10, “Shout for joy, O barren one, you who have borne no child; Break forth into joyful shouting and cry aloud, you who have not travailed; For the sons of the desolate one will be more numerous Than the sons of the married woman,” says the Lord. [this means that more Gentiles will be saved than Jews....only because of the majority are Gentiles].

Enlarge the place of your tent [expand your horizons]; Stretch out the curtains of your dwellings [prosperity in the home], spare not; Lengthen your cords, And strengthen your pegs. [this is really promoting the dominion of ma over the creation].

For you will spread abroad to the right and to the left [you’ll have tremendous capacity] And your descendants will possess nations, And they will resettle the desolate cities [this is the promise of the Lord to all the gentiles or believers concerning their future].

Fear not, for you will not be put to shame; Neither feel humiliated, for you will not be disgraced; But you will forget the shame of your youth, And the reproach of your widowhood you will remember no more.

For your husband is your Maker [the spiritual relationship that the Lord had with His people the Jews in the Old Testament], Whose name is the Lord of hosts; And your Redeemer is the Holy One of Israel, Who is called the God of all the earth. For the Lord

has called you, Like a wife forsaken and grieved in spirit, Even like a wife of one's youth when she is rejected," Says your God.

For a brief moment I forsook you, But with great compassion I will gather you. In an outburst of anger I hid My face from you for a moment; But with everlasting lovingkindness I will have compassion on you," Says the Lord your Redeemer.

For this is like the days of Noah to Me; When I swore that the waters of Noah Should not flood the earth again, So I have sworn that I will not be angry with you,

Nor will I rebuke you. For the mountains may be removed and the hills may shake, But My lovingkindness will not be removed from you, And My covenant of peace will not be shaken,"

Says the Lord who has compassion on you. The mountains may be removed and the hills may shake but His grace and truth will not be removed from you, And My covenant of peace will not be shaken," Says the Lord who has compassion on you.

In 1PE 4:19 to those who are going through some measure of suffering the apostle Peter says to entrust your soul to the "faithful Creator" who will always do what is right!

Now, as noted this past week, not only does God reveal Himself by blessing and protecting His people, but God is also faithful in disciplining His people.

HEB 12:6-11, For those whom the Lord loves He disciplines, And He scourges every son whom He receives. It is for discipline that you endure; God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom his father does not discipline?

But if you are without discipline, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate children and not sons. Furthermore, we had earthly fathers to discipline us, and we respected them; shall we not much rather be subject to the Father of spirits, and live?

For they disciplined us for a short time as seemed best to them, but He disciplines us for our good, that we may share His holiness. All discipline for the moment seems not to be joyful, but sorrowful; yet to those who have been trained by it, afterwards it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness.

He is faithful in what He withholds just like He is faithful in what He gives. He is faithful in sending sorrow as well as in giving joy. And therefore the faithfulness of God is a truth to be acknowledged by us, not only when we are at ease but when we are in trouble.

To agree with this means that we humble ourselves before Him and owe up to the fact that we fully deserve His correction and instead of any murmuring or complaining, we thank Him for it.

So, God is not only faithful in stopping affliction but in sending it as well.

PSA 89:33, Even if they sin and rebel I will not deal falsely in my faithfulness.

HOS 5:15, I will go away and return to My place UNTIL they acknowledge their guilt and (until they) seek My face; In their affliction they will earnestly seek Me.

Remember what the Psalmist said in PSA 119. He had to rely on the SCOH as he was facing annihilation. Here is a man who is imprisoned but he learned that the word of God was his comfort in times of stress and pressure; **PSA 119:50, This is my comfort in my affliction, That Thy word has revived me.**

What does God promise to the believers who persevere?

PSA 119:65, Thou hast dealt well with Thy servant, O Lord, according to Thy word.

Because of this we can conclude that the same principles of equality that exist between the Trinity when it comes to His knowledge, His power or His presence also exists in their being faithful.

God the Father is said to be faithful in **JAM 1:17, Every good thing bestowed and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation, or shifting shadow.**

God the Son, the Lord Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, and today, and forever (HEB 13:8).

God the Holy Spirit is faithful to indwell us and teach us (JOH 14:26-28).

Understanding these principles will preserve us from worry. To be worried and concerned is to reject the nature of God and His divine attributes and become a loser believer. God doesn't change and therefore He who has cared for His child through all the years, will not forsake him in old age.

HEB 4:16, Let us therefore draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and may find grace to help in time of need.