

### ▶ DAY 3: TO WHOM WILL GOD REVEAL HIMSELF?

It may come as a shock to us at first, but knowing God is not an easy thing. In fact, it is an impossibility if we are left to ourselves. It requires the almighty intervention of God, yet it is the one absolute necessity.

This does not mean that the only alternative to a true knowledge of God is a life without any god at all. Ancient history and today's news both reveal the drive in humanity to find some type of god. When the apostle Paul arrived at the city of Athens, he was astonished. It was not the fabulous architecture nor the Athenians' famed intellects that amazed Paul. It was the fact that such sophisticated people would fill their city with altars dedicated to a variety of idols. But the most telling of them was the altar dedicated "to the unknown god." Sadly, the cult of the unknown god has endured until today. It is found in small towns and urban centers, from East to West. It is the basic religion of humanity apart from a miraculous intervention by the one Living God. It is the grace of God that He does not leave humanity to sit in its ignorance and darkness. He has sent His Son to illuminate our dark hearts. Jesus is the "Dayspring from on high" (Luke 1:78) that has brought the truth of God into our confused world.

*But on this one will I look;  
On him who is poor and of  
a contrite spirit,  
And who trembles at My  
word.*

— Isaiah 66:2

The Christian life begins with seeing God revealed in His Son and responding to Him in faith and repentance. The life that follows is one of daily learning more of God. Yet **God is very specific about the kind of Christian who receives this continual and deepening understanding.**

Today we consider the people to whom God will reveal Himself. This may be a novel topic for you, so be very careful to see what God has said about it in the Scriptures.

**FILL IN THE BLANKS** ▶ in the following passages and consider the person to whom God will continue to reveal Himself.

- 1. The Reverent – Psalm 25:14  
*The secret of the LORD is with those who fear Him,* \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

Are you going forward in the fear of the Lord? Are you more aware of His majesty, purity, and undeserved kindness than you were a year ago?

2. The Pure in Heart – Matthew 5:8  
*Blessed are the pure in heart, \_\_\_\_\_.*

God delights to reveal Himself to the person whose heart is pure. The idea behind this word “pure” is undivided, unpolluted, unmixed. A pure heart is united. In other words, it speaks of a single-minded person whose desires have been united around one great object—God. Are you single-minded or fragmented and pulled in a hundred directions?

3. The Childlike – Matthew 11:25-28a

*At that time Jesus answered and said, “I thank You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from the wise and prudent and \_\_\_\_\_. Even so, Father, for so it seemed good in Your sight. All things have been delivered to Me by My Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father. Nor does anyone know the Father except the Son, and the one to whom the Son wills to reveal Him. Come to Me . . .*

Has God been hiding Himself from you?

4. The Obedient – John 14:21

*He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father and \_\_\_\_\_.*

Will God continue to reveal Himself to a person who does not respond in obedience to a previously revealed truth?

## EXERCISE

**CHECK** those which are true:

According to these four passages, your ability to hear what God is saying today will be largely based upon:

- \_\_\_ your intellectual ability
- \_\_\_ your spiritual single-mindedness
- \_\_\_ your ability to have more free time for study
- \_\_\_ your childlike awareness of your need for God
- \_\_\_ your understanding of Greek and Hebrew words
- \_\_\_ your obedience to what God has previously shown you
- \_\_\_ your fear of God

*But when Jesus saw it, He was greatly displeased and said to them, “Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of God. Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it.”*

— Mark 10:14–15

## SELF-EXAMINATION

Is God revealing Himself to you more and more, or have you plateaued and grown stale? You will find the answer to that question is directly related to the answer to other questions: Are you growing in the fear of God, in single-mindedness, in a childlike awareness of your need, and in a love-motivated obedience?

## FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

Do you see the significance of these verses for your life and for your efforts in this study to know God better? No amount of personal study, no study guide, no book or sermon will ever unveil God to you if you are not the kind of person God has described as one to whom He delights to reveal Himself.

If you find that you are not the kind of person to whom God will reveal Himself, go to God with this matter and plead that He would in His mercy do all that is necessary to enable you to have the heart and life described in those passages.

*For thus says the High and  
Lofty One  
Who inhabits eternity;  
whose name is Holy:  
“I dwell in the high and  
holy place,  
With him who has a  
contrite and humble  
spirit.”*

— Isaiah 57:15a