KNOWING GOD

LESSON 2

Title: The Triune God

Text: John 14: 15-26, 15:26, 1 John 5: 5-7

1. **Review**:
   1. We discussed in the previous lesson the importance of having proper thoughts of God. We emphasized that you can only know God because God has by His grace made Himself known. But to know God, one must have thoughts of God equal to that revealed in His Word and in His Son.
   2. The average person, even the average Christian, has a concept of God that is greatly inferior to what God has revealed about Himself.
   3. Why are proper thoughts of God so essential? Because Romans 1 teaches us that all manner of moral and social perversion result from vain thoughts of God. We quoted A.W. Tozer who said that a “…low view of God…is the cause of a hundred lesser evils among us.” The primary problem with our society is not just corrupt deeds and wickedness, but a low concept of God which is inevitably followed by all manner of wickedness.

**Transition**: But God is knowable. We must then seek to understand what He has revealed about Himself.

1. **Introduction**: The bulk of the lessons from now on will focus on an attribute of God. An attribute of God is simply a truth about His Being. This morning we will discuss the Triune God: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost. The Godhead, as Scripture says, is threefold. That does not mean there are three Gods working together; there is only One God.
2. **The mystery of the Trinity**:
   1. The doctrine of the Trinity is incomprehensible to the finite mind.
      1. An inferior concept of God is nowhere more manifest than when dealing with the doctrine of the Trinity.
      2. “Well, I just don’t understand how there can be one God yet three Persons” This has been said by so very many people, as though it must make sense to them before it could possibly be true.
      3. Every day we accept things that for the most part are incomprehensible to most of us.
         1. Do you understand every aspect of how your phone can take a photograph, then transfer that photograph via satellite to your friend across the country?
         2. Or consider your eye. Do you comprehend how the eyes works to transmit figures and colors to the brain?
      4. Do you mean to say that you have to make the triune God logical to your finite mind before you can regard it as fact? Surely you do not reject everything you cannot explain.
   2. Without faith it is impossible to please God (Hebrews 11:6)
      1. We believe in and declare the trinity of God because the Bible declares it.
      2. Furthermore, nowhere in Scripture is the doctrine of the Trinity argued.
         1. For instance, Paul presents a strong argument for the doctrine of justification in the book of Romans.
         2. He argues fervently for the doctrine of the resurrection in I Corinthians 15.
         3. In Ephesians he argues for the doctrine of grace.
         4. But the doctrine of the Trinity is never argued in Scripture; it is assumed and found as a fact.

**Transition**: Therefore, we will not pretend to fully comprehend the Trinity, but we will represent what the Scriptures say.

1. **The fact of the Trinity**:
   1. Again, the Scriptures do not present a long argument supporting the doctrine of the Trinity, rather the Scriptures just show us the Trinity at work. We will observe just a few examples.
   2. The Trinity at work in Creation (Genesis 1:26) “…Let us make man in our image.”
   3. The Trinity and the incarnation (Luke 1:15)
   4. The presence of the Trinity at Jesus’ baptism (Luke 3: 21-22)
   5. The Trinity at work in the atonement (Hebrews 9:14)
2. **The absolute necessity of the Trinity (John 14: 26, 15:26)**:
   1. The context of John 14 and 15:
      1. Jesus was about to go to the cross to be crucified, so He is encouraging and preparing His disciples for His departure.
      2. He had walked with them (John 1:14) in the flesh, now He will die, resurrect, and ascend back to the right hand of the Father.
      3. Jesus will, however, through the Father send another Comforter which is the Holy Spirit. (John 14: 26, 15:26)
      4. We are not left comfortless without help or strength.
3. **Conclusion**: So, Christ is in you. God, therefore, is in you. But God’s throne is in heaven and Jesus is at His right hand…? Right. But the Holy Ghost lives in you who believe. There is one God. The physical presence of God the Father was in His Son Jesus Christ; to whom we are compelled to trust in through God’s Spirit that convinces us of our need of Him.