

The Unknown God

On Mars Hill in Athens, the Apostle Paul preached “The Unknown God” to the Greeks, because he saw among their many altars and statues, an altar with the inscription, “To the Unknown God”.

The Greeks did not know the true God, so Paul preached the message of the resurrection of Jesus Christ to them.- (See Acts 17:22-34) Yet it seems that even now, those who profess to worship God do not know Him. Consider the following passage of scripture:

21 For the hurt of the daughter of my people am I hurt; I am black; astonishment hath taken hold on me. 22 Is there no balm in Gilead; is there no physician there? Why then is not the health of the daughter of my people recovered? 1 ¶ Oh that my head were waters, and mine eyes a fountain of tears, that I might weep day and night for the slain of the daughter of my people! 2 Oh that I had in the wilderness a lodging place of wayfaring men; that I might leave my people, and go from them! for they be all adulterers, an assembly of treacherous men. 3 And they bend their tongues like their bow for lies: but they are not valiant for the truth upon the earth; for they proceed from evil to evil, and they know not me, saith the LORD. - Jeremiah 7:21-8:3

This is an astounding passage, for it reveals the heart of Jehovah of Hosts as a suffering heart! I am struck by this suffering in God’s heart, caused by His people. Whose suffering can be more important or weighty than Jehovah’s? What is it that causes God’s pain? Is it not the spiritual darkness and sin of the people? Yes, it is.

“**But they are not valiant for the truth upon the earth; for they proceed from evil to evil, and they know not me, saith the LORD**” - There it is, from His own mouth!

Now, many profess to know God, and they say they want others to know God. They may pray for that and seek to tell others about God. But the Jews did also claim to know God, and to teach Him to others, and He said to Jeremiah, “They do not know me.”

The important truth I learn here, is that we are ignorant of Who God is and what is in his heart and mind. He is a Person- (actually Persons), that suffers and grieves for His people, and all people are His.

One response that Christians may make, is that Christ has atoned for sin, therefore, God no longer suffers because of sin. This is badly near sighted, if not totally blind on the part of those who would so argue. Sin and evil still abound in the world. People are committing more sin than ever, especially since there are more people than ever. God is not oblivious to that. We can see from the above passage that He is a Being of powerful feeling and compassion. If He was so in Jeremiah’s day, He is so now. “**I AM Jehovah; I change not**”.- Malachi 3:6

“**Who is weak, and I am not weak? Who is offended, and I burn not**” ? 2 Cor. 11:29

These are the words of the Apostle Paul. Paul was a true empath. He could feel the condition of his people. Is God less able to feel the condition of a man, woman or child, in the body, soul and

spirit? Far be it from Him! If we could sense one millionth of what God our Father, The Son of God, or The Spirit of Holiness feels of the hearts of the peoples of the earth, we would be overwhelmed with uncontrollable emotion and probably be destroyed mentally and physically.

Jeremiah also wrote Lamentations:

12 ¶ Is it nothing to you, all ye that pass by? behold, and see if there be any sorrow like unto my sorrow, which is done unto me, wherewith the LORD hath afflicted me in the day of his fierce anger. 13 From above hath he sent fire into my bones, and it prevaieth against them: he hath spread a net for my feet, he hath turned me back: he hath made me desolate and faint all the day. 14 The yoke of my transgressions is bound by his hand: they are wreathed, and come up upon my neck: he hath made my strength to fall, the Lord hath delivered me into their hands, from whom I am not able to rise up. 15 The Lord hath trodden under foot all my mighty men in the midst of me: he hath called an assembly against me to crush my young men: the Lord hath trodden the virgin, the daughter of Judah, as in a winepress. 16 For these things I weep; mine eye, mine eye runneth down with water, because the comforter that should relieve my soul is far from me: my children are desolate, because the enemy prevailed. 17 Zion spreadeth forth her hands, and there is none to comfort her: the LORD hath commanded concerning Jacob, that his adversaries should be round about him: Jerusalem is as a menstruous woman among them. 18 The LORD is righteous; for I have rebelled against his commandment: hear, I pray you, all people, and behold my sorrow: my virgins and my young men are gone into captivity. 19 I called for my lovers, but they deceived me: my priests and mine elders gave up the ghost in the city, while they sought their meat to relieve their souls. -Lamentations 1:12-19

The above prophecy may seem to merely reflect Jeremiah's heart and condition, but a careful reading reveals otherwise. "**Behold, and see if there be any sorrow like unto my sorrow, which is done unto me.**" Jeremiah was Jehovah's Prophet, and as such, the words he spoke were not his, but Jehovah's. The great sorrow of which he spoke was not his own, as the picture of suffering and the message was not about him at all; it is a picture of The Messiah, Who is Jehovah Himself! The same speaker speaks of "**all my mighty men in the midst of me: he hath called an assembly against me to crush my young men**", and "**my children are desolate**" and "**my virgins and my young men are gone into captivity. 19 I called for my lovers, but they deceived me: my priests and mine elders gave up the ghost in the city**". No, this is no mere Prophet speaking; this is The LORD Messiah. Consider Lam. 4:20: "**The breath of our nostrils, the anointed of the LORD, was taken in their pits, of whom we said, Under his shadow we shall live among the heathen.**" Jeremiah wrote of the sufferings and death of "Meshiakh Yehovah" - "The Messiah of Jehovah", or "The Messiah Jehovah"; either phrase is warranted in the Hebrew. The Messiah was "captured", as Young's and Rotherham's literal translations have it, even though He was "**The breath of our nostrils**" - Life itself, and they had hoped He was their deliverer and protector in the midst of the Gentiles.

So you can see how God is portrayed as the sin bearer and suffering servant. The Spirit of God is sent to point Him out and reveal Him to us, for it is only in knowing Him that we can be saved from ourselves, from sin and from death. "**Mine eye runneth down with water, because the comforter that should relieve my soul is far from me.**" The suffering of The Messiah could not

be helped by The Spirit of God, because He was also suffering! ***Pr 18:14 The spirit of a man will sustain his infirmity; but a wounded spirit who can bear?*** And if The Divine Comforter- The Holy Spirit is suffering, where is comfort to be found?

God The Father could not help, for the same reason! The Son of God is the Image of God The Father and the revelation of The Spirit: ***“He who has seen Me has seen the Father” John 14:9. “Then answered Jesus and said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, The Son can do nothing of himself, but what he seeth the Father do: for what things soever he doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise.”- John 5:19***

Even as Jeremiah the Prophet spoke not of himself, Jesus never spoke of just of Himself, but He spoke and worked as God The Father and The Spirit of Holiness. This does not mean Jesus is God The Father and The Spirit, of course, but that He is the embodiment and revelation of the Triune Godhead, in Whom (Jehovah Messiah) All The Fulness of The Godhead is pleased to dwell bodily forever.

“He who has seen Me has seen The Father”- means that He shows us exactly Who The Father is, because He is just like His Son; The Father is not any less loving or compassionate, nor is He more demanding or harder to please; He is not overbearing or more controlling, nor is He more proud or egotistical than Jesus; The Father is not self centered and imperious, nor one bit less meek and lowly of heart than Jesus. God is not a Master with a lash and hard words and demands; He is not a cruel and punishing Taskmaster; He is not a merciless creditor who will demand that you pay your debt or be put to death- not if Jesus’ words are true, and I believe they are true. God The Father is exactly the same kind of Person His Son is. And The Father is not only just like His Son, but He was and is always with Him and in Him in the flesh and spiritually. The Trinity is eternally indivisible. There is only one way to see God and Jesus is that way, and Jesus is what we see.

For God’, who spoke that light would shine out of the darkness, has dawned in our hearts that we would be enlightened with the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Yeshua The Messiah. - 2 Cor 4:6

For he is The Brilliance of his glory, The Image of his Being, and upholds all* things by the power of his word; and he in his Essential Being has accomplished the purification of our sins, and he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high. -Hebrews 1:3

Not only is Jesus the revelation of The Father’s Person, but He shows us exactly what the Father does and says. ***“Then answered Jesus and said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, The Son can do nothing of himself, but what he seeth the Father do: for what things soever he doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise.”- John 5:19***

“Do you not believe that I am in my Father and my Father in me? The words which I am speaking, I am not speaking from myself, but my Father who dwells within me, he does these works.” “Believe that I am in my Father and my Father in me, otherwise believe because of the works.” - John 14:9,10

If Jesus’ Person is the revelation of who God is, then His works are also a revelation of what God does and did, as he said. If Jesus was saying that the miracles were God The Father’s miracles being performed in Him, and that The Son could do nothing on His own, then this applied to all

His works, great and small. Since all of Jesus' works were what He saw His Father doing, and were always His Father's works also, ask yourself this: What was Christ's greatest work? Was His greatest work not also His Father's, and what He saw His Father doing? Yes, it was! Consider the cross of our Lord & Savior Jesus Christ, and look again, and consider. If you look through the 3D spectacles of His word, you will see Three Persons on the cross- The Triune God! Reconsider what the cross means and what really transpired there; put your hand upon your mouth and be silent before the dying Godhead! Is this a deception? Only if Christ is a deceiver and John's Gospel is a lie. Some truths are implicit, not explicit, even in theology and scripture: Pr 25:2 *It is the glory of God to conceal a thing: but the honour of kings is to search out a matter.* "Seek and you shall find."

When we pray, do we pray with God in mind, or ourselves? Do we even understand what prayer is? I see prayer as getting into the mind of God and uniting with it. If I seek to know what is in His heart and mind, His Spirit, Who searches the depths of God, is willing and able to assist me in prayer and communion (1 Cor. 2:10-12 & Romans 8:26,27). True prayer is praying for God first and foremost: "Not my will, but thine be done". "Seek first the Kingdom of God...". If I do this, I do not need to worry about my needs or my earthly wants. He knows our hearts, of course. We cannot seek His will in order to get our own. His Spirit knows all things and searches the hearts and minds, discerning good and evil.

The question I want everyone reading this to face is: "Do I want to know what is in God's mind and heart- what He thinks and feels and wants?" If you really do, The Spirit of Holiness is yours for the asking, according to Jesus' promise: "***And if you, who are evil, know to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in Heaven give The Spirit of Holiness to those who ask him?***" - Luke 11:13 - The Original Aramaic New Testament in Plain English

God's amazing heart suffers on our behalf, yet He asks no one for comfort. If we love Him, we will give and do above what He asks; that is what love does. "***Does that servant receive his thanks because he did the thing that he was commanded? I think not. So also you, whenever you have done all those things that were commanded you, you should say, 'We are unprofitable servants, because we have done that which we were obligated to do.'***" - Luke 17:9,10 - The Original Aramaic New Testament in Plain English

And we think we need prayer!
We don't need prayer; Christ lives to pray for us. (Hebrews 7:25)

We need to pray.