

YOU'VE GOT TO KNOW WHO

John 4:10

(Not entirely original with me)

Introduction: People know a lot about religion, about Christianity and think that what they know is all that matters. There was a woman at a well in Samaria who upon meeting Jesus spoke of religious things, seeming to be secure in what she knew. However Jesus told her that she still lacked one thing. One thing was missing from her biblical knowledge and that was knowing WHO Jesus was. She did not know the Lord Jesus Christ, she did not know He was the promised Messiah. The same is true today for countless people know biblical facts, truths, but do not know in person the Messiah, the Lord Jesus Christ. To have eternal life, one has to know WHO eternal life comes through.

I. IF PEOPLE ONLY KNEW WHO

1. Knowing biblical, doctrinal things is not salvation.
 - Salvation is not in works, rituals or some system of doctrine.
 - Salvation is in a person, the Lord Jesus Christ.
2. It is not knowing WHAT that saves, but WHO.
 - Jesus told the woman at the well that she needed to know WHO could give her the living water.
3. Biblical, gospel knowledge is essential to faith that saves.
 - Those who reject the gospel don't know God.
 - Those who deny God, don't love the Lord Jesus.
 - Those who see Jesus' death as just an ordinary death are not saved.
 - Those who ignore the Holy Spirit do not know anything about the grace of God.
 - It is impossible to trust a Savior that is not know. (**Romans 10:13-17**)
 - It is impossible to call upon and worship somebody they do not trust.
 - It is impossible for anyone to trust the Lord Jesus Christ until they know Him.
 - It is impossible for anyone to know the Lord Jesus Christ without a "preacher."
 - It is impossible for anyone to "preach" the Lord Jesus unless he is sent of God.
4. Faith is not some kind of leap in the dark - Faith is walking in the light.
 - All who believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, taught of God, born of God, KNOW the gift of God.
- Romans 6:23; Ephesians 2:8-9; 2 Corinthians 9:15
 - God's gift of grace is found in the Lord Jesus Christ, pure, free and undeserved.
 - Salvation is not a present, but a gift.
 - Salvation is not an offer, but a gift.
 - Salvation is not a proposition, but a gift.
 - Saving faith involves knowledge, knowing the gift of God and therefore becoming involved in the ONE through whom the gift comes, the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - There is NO saving faith in the Lord Jesus without a saving knowledge of Him. NO ONE is saved who does not know WHO Jesus is and what He has done.
- John 17:3; 9:35-38

II. BEFORE FAITH IN THE LORD JESUS CHRIST AS SAVIOR, THERE HAS TO BE KNOWLEDGE OF ONE'S NEED FOR HIM AS SAVIOR

1. No person will ever call upon the Lord Jesus to save him/her until he/she realizes his/her need to be saved and that he/she cannot contribute anything to his/her salvation.
 - No one will ever turn to the Lord Jesus until he/she knows that there is no other way.
 - One must be convinced that redemption was accomplished at Calvary by Jesus.

- One must be convinced of the righteousness of God is found in the Lord Jesus Christ only.
 - One must be convinced by the Holy Spirit that Jesus has put away one's sins at the Cross.
 - One must be convinced that Jesus is at the right hand of almighty God with power to save.
 - One must be convinced that there is no other way for salvation except in the Lord Jesus.
2. Saving knowledge comes only by way of God revealing it to the sinner.
- It is not a notion, an idea or even factual knowledge, it is not second hand knowledge nor book knowledge, it is PERSONAL KNOWLEDGE.
 - Learned by the Holy Spirit of God teaching it.
 - Learned by the preaching of the Gospel.
 - ***Romans 1:16-17; Ephesians 1:13; John 4:10***
 - Knowing WHO causes one to ask:
 - God, be merciful to me, a sinner!
 - If you want to, you can make me whole!
 - Give my sight!
 - Remember me!

III. ONLY THE LORD JESUS CHIRST CAN GIVE THE LIVING WATER (SALVATION)

1. Why is salvation referred to as "living water?"
- Water is the gift of God.
 - Water is absolutely essential to everyone.
 - Water meets a universal need.
 - Water comes down from heaven.
 - Water cleanses and refreshes.
 - Water is free.
 - Water is something that no one ever gets tired of having.
2. The woman at the well finally realized WHO it was offering her living water and she believed in the Lord Jesus Christ and then hurried off to tell others about WHO she had met and what had happened.

CONCLUSION:

1. If ONE thing which prevents lost sinners from being saved is their ignorance of the Lord Jesus Christ, then every Christian/believer should go tell his/her family, neighbors, friends, even enemies what the Lord Jesus Christ has done for him/her, just like the Samaritan woman at the well did.
2. Ignorance of the WHO of salvation sends people to hell every day.
3. Do YOU know WHO eternal life comes through? Do you know the WHO of salvation?