

The Altar of the Unknown God

Week 5 - The Altar (8-18-21)

Knowing God - John 17:3

- We have talked about the altar of peace, the mobile altar, altar of provision, the broken altar. Basically looking at the characteristics of God for each altar because that is where He reveals Himself to us, at the altar. That is where we get to know Him.
- I. Woman at the well - John 4:3-26
 - A. Jesus (Emanuel - God with us), was revealing Himself to this woman and eventually the whole city.
 - 1. Interaction with God at the well - “mobile altar experience”
 - B. Jesus knew who she was before she knew who He was.
 - 1. God knows all there is to know about us. We are the ones that need to dwell with God and learn of Him.
 - a) Its God’s character and truth that will change us as we learn of Him
 - 2. Do we recognize God when He speaks to us?
 - a) Knowing God effects our ability to hear and understand what He is saying to us.
 - C. Vs. 13-14 - The well/spring that Jesus speaks of is like the vine supplying never ending life to the branch.
 - 1. John 15
 - a) We are to ABIDE in the vine, not VISIT the vine.
 - D. Vs. 23-24 - We worship God in spirit and in truth
 - 1. Knowing God effects the depth of my worship
 - a) Can you worship something that you know nothing about?
 - b) We worship God in spirit and in truth
 - (1) We know God through our spirit communicating with His Spirit
 - (2) We worship God in response to what He has revealed to us about Himself.
 - (a) Many times we worship God, by faith, in a truth that is being challenged.
 - i) Example: Choosing to worship and praise God for healing when we are sick. or Choosing to worship and praise God for being our provider when experiencing lack.
 - (b) Our understanding of God in a certain area becomes more complete when we have “obeyed” that part of Him (or stood on in faith through worship and obedience).
 - i) “The only part of God we understand is the part we have obeyed.” - Oswald Chambers

II. Saul meets God - Acts 9:1-18

- A. Saul thought he knew God and was very zealous for what he thought was the will of God.
- B. He did not know who was speaking to him, though he thought he knew God.
 - 1. knowing God allows us to effectively hear what He is speaking to us.
 - 2. Don't "kick against the pricks."
 - a) We need to be spiritually conscious
 - 3. Ananias also heard God, but knew who it was. Vs. 10-18
 - a) His trust in God was challenged but as an act of faith and worship in what he already knew about God, he obeyed.
 - b) Our knowledge of God is how we can live in the power of God
 - (1) 1 Peter 2:1-4
 - (2) satan will try to break our "supply line"
 - (a) 2 Corinthians 10:5 - We must cast down anything that exalts itself against the knowledge of God.