### A SAVING KNOWLEDGE OF THE TRUTH

They say that "knowledge is power" and often this rings true. But the "knowledge of God's truth" is a double-edged sword having two piercing points of truth. It is gloriously salvific for those accepting and believing, but at the same time it condemns all those who reject it.

The Bible (God's Word) is very clear that God desires all people to "be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth" (1 Tim. 2:4; 2 Tim. 2:25). It is therefore necessary that people come to have this KNOWLEDGE in order to be saved. Furthermore, Paul said that prayer is to be made for all people to the end that they may be saved (cf. 1 Tim. 2:1-4).

People are not saved by "osmosis". They NEED to know the truth of the gospel and then they need to believe it. It is not enough to merely KNOW we must also BELIEVE! And God has given the responsibility of sharing the KNOWLEDGE OF THE TRUTH with the lost to His people. Once you KNOW you are now responsible to share with others not in the KNOW!

The KNOWLEDGE of God's truth involves KNOWING essential gospel truth. Note these key points which come directly from the Scripture.

### 1)The KNOWLEDGE of Sin:

# Romans 3:19-20 (NKJV)

**19** Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God.

**20** Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law is **the knowledge of sin.** 

# 2) The KNOWLEDGE of Christ as LORD:

# 2 Corinthians 4:3–6 (NKJV)

- 3 But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing,
- **4** whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is **the image of God**, should shine on them.
- **5** For we do not preach ourselves, but <u>Christ Jesus the Lord</u>, and ourselves your bondservants for Jesus' sake.

**6** For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of **the knowledge of the glory of God** in the face of Jesus Christ.

#### 3) The KNOWLEDGE of Christ as SAVIOR:

#### 1 Timothy 2:4–6 (NKJV)

- **4** who desires all men to be saved and to come to the **knowledge of the truth.**
- **5** For there is one God and <u>one Mediator</u> between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus,
- 6 who gave Himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time,

### 4) The KNOWLEDGE of righteousness by BELIEVING:

### **Romans 10:1–4 (NKJV)**

- **1** Brethren, my heart's desire and <u>prayer</u> to God for Israel is that they may be saved.
- **2** For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but **not according to knowledge**.
- **3** For they being **ignorant** of God's righteousness, and seeking to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted to the righteousness of God.
- **4** For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to **everyone who believes**.

# 5) ACCOUNTABILITY for the knowledge of the truth:

# Hebrews 10:26–27 (NKJV)

**26** For if we <u>sin willfully</u> <u>after we have received the knowledge of the truth</u>, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins,

**27** but a certain fearful expectation of judgment, and fiery indignation which will devour the adversaries.

People NEED to KNOW the truth and once they KNOW it, they are then responsible to BELIEVE it!

People need to KNOW and BELIEVE...

- what God says about SIN.
- that Jesus is LORD-GOD as proven in the resurrection.

- that Jesus is SAVIOR Who died for all our sins.
- that salvation is by FAITH ALONE and not by works.

# John 3:18 (NKJV)

**18** "He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

The knowledge of God truth is a powerful reality for those who believe it (Rom. 1:16), but it also brings a terrible accountability for those rejecting it!

### 2 Thessalonians 1:8 (NKJV)

**8** in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.