

I Knew Him not

One of the ways we can stop doubts about a person is by getting to know him. Knowing someone will position us to grow in trust and relationship with him. In this teaching I reveal that John the Baptist as powerful and influential as he was, he did not really know the Lord which is a reason why he doubted who He was after he experienced some challenges.

John 1:29-33 The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world. 30 This is he of whom I said, After me cometh a man which is preferred before me: for he was before me. 31 And I knew him not: but that he should be made manifest to Israel, therefore am I come baptizing with water. 32 And John bare record, saying, I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it abode upon him. 33 And I knew him not: but he that sent me to baptize with water, the same said unto me, Upon whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending, and remaining on him, the same is he which baptizeth with the Holy Ghost.

- a) Do you know Jesus? How many of you want to doubt Jesus? If you do not know Him or stop knowing Him, you will. It is a matter of time. Father help me know you.
- b) John the Baptist, a man greater than all the prophets before him (Matthew 11:11), who was Jesus' forerunner, and filled with the Holy Ghost will still in His mother's womb doubted Jesus. How was that possible?
 - i) John did not know Jesus.
 - ii) John spoke of not knowing Jesus **twice**.
 - iii) Knowing Jesus is done best through the Word. The Word reveals Jesus to us. We cannot know God outside His Word. Knowing Jesus is what is relationship with God.

c) John knew Jesus by physical appearance, not by relationship and intimacy which is also why he later doubted.

i) Matthew 11:1-3 *And it came to pass, when Jesus had made an end of commanding his twelve disciples, he departed thence to teach and to preach in their cities. 2 Now when John had heard in the prison the works of Christ, he sent two of his disciples, 3 And said unto him, Art thou he that should come, or do we look for another? See also Luke 7:18-22*

o Knowing a person will get you to place where you would not doubt him.

ii) 2 Corinthians 5:16 *Therefore, from now on, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we have known Christ according to the flesh, yet now we know Him thus no longer.*

o This passage teaches to not know each other after the flesh. We can't build a relationship with the Lord after the flesh or His Physical appearance. We need to know Him after the Spirit.

d) John knew about Jesus. He did not know Him personally even though he had quoted verses about Him. There was no personal relationship.

e) Quoting the scriptures does not mean you know the Lord behind the scriptures. There are many people that know the written Word, but do not know the LORD who is the WORD.