

Know the Lord
- Ron Stullenbarger -

"A contemplation of God is a subject so vast that all our thoughts are lost in its immensity; so deep that our pride is drowned in its infinity. Other subjects we can get hold of and grapple with; in them we feel a kind of self-content, and go our way with the thought, 'I am wise.' But when we come to a contemplation of God, we find that our sonar cannot sound its depth, and that our eagle eye cannot see its height. No subject of contemplation will tend more to humble the mind than thoughts of God. But while the subject humbles the mind, it also expands it. He who often thinks of God, will have a larger mind than the man who simply around this narrow globe.... The most excellent study for expanding the soul, is the science of Christ, and Him crucified, and the knowledge of the Godhead in the glorious Trinity. Nothing will so enlarge the intellect, nothing so magnify the whole soul of man, as a devout, earnest, continued investigation of the great subject of the Deity.... I know nothing which can so comfort the soul; so calm the swelling billows of sorrow and grief; so speak peace to the winds of trial, as a devout musing upon the subject of the Godhead." (Charles Spurgeon when he was 20 years old!)

These words, spoken over a century ago by Spurgeon were true then, and they are true now.

We need to ask ourselves a very fundamental question — a question that we should always put to ourselves whenever we embark on any line of study in God's holy book. The question concerns our motives and intentions. We need to ask ourselves: What is my ultimate aim and object in occupying my mind with these things? What do I intend to do with my knowledge about God, once I have it?

Our study, as we contemplate God's greatness and glory and our own littleness and sinfulness, we will be encouraged and reassured and comforted. As we contemplate the unsearchable riches of divine mercy displayed in the Lord Jesus Christ, peace and strength and joy will be our reward.

God help us, then, to put our knowledge about God to this use, that we all may in truth *"know the Lord."*