

How Can I Find God?

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Job 23:

Job 23:3, *“Oh that I knew where I might find him! that I might come even to his seat!”*

Down through time comes the cry of Job. Job was always a man of God, but because of Satan’s buffeting him with calamities and sufferings, he sought out God with heaviness of heart. He thought God had left him, and wanted to seek Him out.

Men have always sought after God.

Some claim they can’t find Him. They ask, “How can I find God?”

This question is very important. It is also the desire of Jesus Christ that God be found.

John 17:3. *“And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.”*

The answer to the question, “How can I find God?” is even more important.

Let’s study this question, “How can I find God?” Some have the wrong concept in trying to find God.

How some try to find God

In nature.

There are those who see God in nature — that is called pantheism. They believe God exists in the trees, stars, moon, etc. Many cultures in the world have this believe of God. The early American Indians believed this, also; that there were many gods that existed in the birds, animals, moon, sun, etc.

In man.

There are those who believe man is his own god; that all men are their own gods. This is called humanism. They do not believe in an afterlife; so they live to satisfy their own appetites, to live after the flesh.

In mysticism and cults.

There are those who seek for God in mysticism and cults. He is an unknown God to many.

Acts 17:21-31, *“(For all the Athenians and strangers which were there spent their time in nothing else, but either to tell, or to hear some new thing.) Then Paul stood in the midst of Mars’ hill, and said, Ye men of Athens, I perceive that in all things ye are too superstitious. For as I passed by, and beheld your devotions, I found an altar with this inscription, TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Whom therefore ye ignorantly worship, him declare I unto you. God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands; Neither is worshipped with men’s hands, as though he needed any thing, seeing he giveth to all life, and breath, and all things; And hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation; That they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find him, though he be not far from every one of us: For in him we live, and move, and have our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, For we are also his offspring. Forasmuch then as we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Godhead is like unto gold, or silver, or stone, graven by art and man’s device. And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent: Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead.”*

Some don’t want to find Him at all.

Some have an attitude of, “I couldn’t care less” or “I get along fine without Him.”

If they live their entire life with that attitude, the Day of Judgment is going to be quite a shock to them; then it will be too late.

Why we should want to find (and know) God

One reason is because of what He can do for us in this life.

He can help us face our problems of distress, burdens, pain, sorrow, etc. There is no greater comfort than to know God is there to help us.

- James 5:13, *“Is any among you afflicted? let him pray. Is any merry? let him sing psalms.”*
- 1 Chron. 16:11, *“Seek the LORD and his strength...”*

- Matt. 26:41, “*Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.*”
- Heb. 4:16, “*Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.*”

He can bring peace and happiness to believers.

- Psalms 29:11, “*The LORD will give strength unto his people; the LORD will bless his people with peace.*”
- John 14:27, “*Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.*”
- John 16:33, “*These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.*”

The peace of God comes by knowing He is with us regardless of whatever may befall us; and that there is a greater life to come.

We seek for God because He has the power of eternal life.

- John 1:12, “*But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name.*”
- John 3:16, “*For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.*”
- John 10:10, “*The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.*”

If we believe in Him, and follow His will, we will have eternal life — He has promised this. This is greater than anything we can imagine of what this world has to offer. Just think in your most imaginable thought of what you would like from this world. God’s offer to you is much greater than that.

John 14:1-3, “*Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.*”

But we must seek Him out now, before we can expect to be with Him in the hereafter.

How we must want Him

With all our hearts.

Luke 10:27, *“And he answering said, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbour as thyself.”*

Our heart is not to be divided. We are to place Him above anything else in our lives, including our friends, our spouses, and our children.

Matt. 10:35-38, *“...I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law. And a man’s foes shall be they of his own household. He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me.”*

This doesn’t mean we are not to love them — it means we are not to place them above our love and responsibility to God. Many times in the past I have heard others say that the reason they didn’t come to church was that they had relatives in from out of town, and they stayed home to entertain them. Ask them to come along, and if they don’t wish to come, tell them you’ll see them when you get back from church. God must be first importance in our lives.

Some people try to live in two different worlds, but that won’t make them happy.

On Sunday, they live the life of a Christian; and other days, they live a worldly life. They can never be satisfied with that kind of life, and God can’t be pleased with it either.

This world has nothing that we can benefit from eternally.

- Rom. 12:1-2, *“I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.”*
- Rev. 3:15-16, *“I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth.”*

Do we really want to find God?

The question is, “How much do we really want to find Him?”

Do we want it enough to give up our sins and self? Are we willing to give up our compromises?

Some people are in a conflict with self:

- They want Him — yet they don’t.
- They want His way — and they want their way, too.
- They want to be made clean — and they want to be able to be filthy, also.
- They will never find Him when they are still clinging to the world. Do they really want to find Him?

Is He worth finding? Yes!

He created us, and He loves us. He sent His Son to die for us.

- John 3:16, “*For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.*”
- Eph. 5:2, “*And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour.*”
- 1 John 4:16, “*And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.*”

He wants to save us and give us heaven. John 14:1-3, “*Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.*”

Conclusion

How can I find God?

Two other questions must be answered first:

- “Do I really want to find Him?”
- “Am I willing to give up everything that separates us (sin)?”

He is seeking you — let Him find you — turn to Him!

Rom. 1:16-17, *“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.”*

Faith. Heb. 11:6, *“But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.”*

Repentance. Acts 17:30, *“And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent.”*

Confession. Rom. 10:9-10, *“That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.”*

Baptism.

- Mark 16:16, *“He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.”*
- John 3:5, *“Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.”*
- Acts 2:38, *“Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.”*
- Acts 22:16, *“And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord.”*

