

# **KNOW GOD: Omnipresent**

As one considers the qualities of God, they begin to know Him in a more personal way. In this series of articles on knowing God, we have made an effort to look closely at the characteristics of the one true God of heaven, that we all might get to know Him more thoroughly. It is important to know God as the book of Job 18:21 states, “Surely such are the dwellings of the wicked, and this is the place of him who does not know God.” Do you know God? Even though our nation seems to be removing the spiritual landmarks upon which we were founded, are you willing to take a stand for the truth in having an understanding of who God is and what He means in your life?

In our last article we considered that God knows everything. A very good reason for why that statement is true will be based on this article. We are going to address the omnipresence of God. The Bible tells us that our God is everywhere. He even knows what you are doing as you are presently reading this article. Neat thought...isn't it? We must always strive each moment of our lives to please God as He watches to see if we will follow Him and obey His every command. God be glorified by your understanding of His Divine presence at all times.

## **GOD IS EVERYWHERE**

There are multitudes of people who live a life that desires God's presence to be near in times of trouble and yet to be away from them when they are living in the pleasures of sin. But God is always present, no matter what someone may be going through in his or her life. It is written in Jeremiah 23:23-24, “‘Am I a God who is near,’ declares the LORD, ‘And not a God far off? Can a man hide himself in hiding places so I do not see him?’ declares the LORD. ‘Do I not fill the heavens and the earth?’ declares the LORD.” It should be obvious as we begin this particular study that God wants us to know that He is everywhere that we can possibly go. This thought is comforting to those who live according to His will, in light of His Divine protection. Yet this same thought is a fearful one for those who know they are living in sin and are bound for His judgment.

We see God's omnipresence further established by the psalmist of Psalm 139:8-12, where it is noted, “If I ascend to heaven, you are there; if I make my bed in Sheol, behold, you are there. If I take the wings of the dawn, if I dwell in the remotest part of the sea, even there your hand will lead me, and your right hand will lay hold of me. If I say, ‘Surely the darkness will overwhelm me, and the light around me will be night,’ Even the darkness is not dark to you, and the night is as bright as the day. Darkness and light are alike {to you.}.” If you are running from God in your sins and now you realize that God knows your heart this very minute, why would you delay in repenting of your sins and turning back to God? Perhaps you would utter the words of the psalmist as he continued in the previous psalm in verses 23-24 to say, “Search me, O God, and know my heart; try me and know my anxious thoughts; And see if there be any hurtful way in me, and lead

me in the everlasting way.” Won’t you ask God to lead you in the everlasting way and find it within yourself to obey His will for your life?

When someone finally comes to understand that God is everywhere, they will begin to make decisions in their personal life that are pleasing to Him. A passage that would certainly bring one to understand this fact is Hebrews 4:13, which states, “And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are open and laid bare to the eyes of Him with whom we have to do.” This passage helps us to recall the story of Adam and Eve in the garden of creation. When Eve was deceived and gave in to sin along with her husband, Adam, they tried to hide themselves from the presence of God (Gen. 3:8). God with all knowledge asked them the rhetorical question, “Where are you?” as if He didn’t know. But in this God was trying to get man to realize his error and confess his faults. This is eventually what happened. Adam said, “I heard Your voice in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; and I hid myself” (Gen. 3:9-10). God didn’t have to be there with them in the garden to know they had sinned. God is everywhere and this is called omnipresence. Listen to the words of Jeremiah 16:17, “For My eyes are on all their ways; they are not hidden from My face, nor is their iniquity concealed from My eyes.”

God created mankind in His image, that all people might serve His purposes. When man refuses to serve God, this does not mean that God is not aware of their state in life. To demonstrate what I am saying we will look at what Luke wrote in Acts 17:26-28, which reads, “...and He made from one {man} every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined {their} appointed times and the boundaries of their habitation, that they would seek God, if perhaps they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us; for in Him we live and move and exist, as even some of your own poets have said, ‘For we also are His children.’” It is important for us to notice the little phrase, “He is not far from each one of us.” This demonstrates the awesome qualities of the God we serve. There are billions of people on this earth, and our Almighty God is not far from each one of us. Another point to take to heart is that the text exhorts, “they should seek God, if perhaps they might grope for Him and find Him” These words tell us that even though God is not far from any one of us, we must seek Him in order to find Him and the blessings that He has to offer to His people. Are you seeking the Lord today? Are you failing to appreciate that He is everywhere? If you know that God sees you where you are, do you think He is pleased with you? Are you willing to submit to God in humble obedience to His will if you find that your life in His presence is being lived in sin? No matter what you choose, remember, “He is not far from each one of us.” How close are you to God? He is everywhere!