**“Know The God Of Your Father”**

Prepared by Nathan L Morrison for Sunday January 14th, 2018

Text: I Chr. 28:9

### Intro

1. *I Chr. 28:1-8*
   1. David had a great desire to “build a permanent home for the ark of the covenant of the Lord” (28:2).
   2. He had prepared to build it but God told him since he was a “man of war” he was not permitted to build it (28:3).
   3. David gathered all the people together to announce to them God had chosen Solomon to build the temple, and then he charged the people to keep God’s laws (28:8).
2. I Chr. 28:9-10
   1. David then charges his son Solomon to “know the God of your father, and serve Him with a whole heart and a willing mind; for the LORD searches all hearts, and understands every intent of the thoughts. If you seek Him, He will let you find Him; but if you forsake Him, He will reject you forever” (28:9).
   2. And to “be courageous and act” (28:10).
3. Although made to an ancient king, David’s charge to his son contains lessons for today!

#### “Know the God of Your Father”

* 1. David knew the importance of knowing God!
     1. Judges 21:25: The book of Judges is summed up with the fact that the people did not know God, instead they did what was right in their own eyes!
     2. Hosea 4:6: The Jews would later be destroyed “for lack of knowledge.”
  2. Some today are like those Paul spoke about in Rom. 1:21
     1. Paul said they knew God but did not glorify Him, were not thankful, and they became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened!
     2. He said they did not like to retain God in their knowledge (NKJ: Rom. 1:28).
  3. How can we know God today?
     1. As David charged Solomon to “know the God of your father,” parents today are charged to teach their children about God (Eph. 6:4).
     2. I Jn. 2:3-4: The apostle John declared that we know God through obedience to Him! We can’t just say we know Him, but we must obey Him!
  4. We need to know God and teach others to know Him as well!

#### “Serve Him with a Whole Heart and a Willing Mind”

* 1. Service to God has always been required of men!
     1. I Chr. 29:19: The “perfect heart” (ESV: “whole heart”) follows God’s statutes!
     2. Js. 1:21-22: Those who have a “willing mind” to serve God will, in humility, receive the word of God that can save one’s soul, & obey (Heb. 5:9).
  2. Our service to God must be a wholehearted service!
     1. *Mk. 12:30:* “And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.”
     2. *Mt. 5:48:* “Therefore you are to be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.”
  3. We need to be willing to serve God, and serve Him with our whole hearts!

#### “The Lord Searches (and Understands) All Hearts”

* 1. God said this to Samuel when choosing David as king – I Sam. 16:7
     1. Man judges by appearance but God judges the heart!
     2. *I Sam. 16:12-13:* David, the “runt of the litter” (so to speak) is anointed King!
     3. *I Sam. 13:14:* David is the man “after God’s own heart.”
  2. In the Psalms, David talked about how God searched and knew him, and was acquainted with all his ways and words – David even welcomed the search of God (Ps. 139:23-24)
  3. God has always sought the hearts of men and held them accountable!
     1. *Gen. 6:5:* Mankind in Noah’s time was evil in their hearts and was punished.
     2. Mt. 15:19-20: Man is defiled before God because of evil thoughts.
     3. Rom. 14:12; II Cor. 5:10: We will one day give an account of ourselves!
  4. Heb. 4:12: The word of God is “able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart!”
  5. God sees us for what we are – Let us adorn our hearts with righteousness in all our ways!

#### “If You Seek Him, He Will Let You Find Him”

* 1. Jer. 29:13: The Jews were told they could seek and find God if they searched for Him with all their hearts!
     1. Ps. 119:2: David said a blessing is in store for those that “seek Him with all their heart.” *(II Chr. 34:3: Josiah sought God while a youth and made reforms)*
     2. Jn. 6:26: Jesus rebuked those who searched for Him for the wrong reasons!
  2. Acts 17:27: The apostle Paul told the Athenians to seek for God and they could find Him!
     1. *Mt. 7:7-8:* Jesus said those who seek will find!
  3. What is promised to those who seek after the Lord?
     1. Rom. 2:7: Eternal life! The promise of life is eternal life! *(II Tim. 1:1)*
  4. Who or what are YOU seeking?!

#### “If You Forsake Him, He Will Reject You Forever”

* 1. Joshua 24:20: Joshua had warned Israel of this consequence as well!
     1. I Sam. 13:13-14; 15:26: Samuel taught this harsh lesson to Saul.
  2. Mt. 10:32-33: Jesus taught His disciples that they must confess Him, not deny Him.
     1. *Jn. 12:42-43:* The Jewish rulers denied Him, though they knew Him!
     2. *Mt. 26:74-75:* Peter sinned when he denied Jesus 3 times!
     3. Jn. 12:48: Jesus’ word will judge those who reject Him!
     4. II Thess. 1:7-9: Penalty of rejecting God is an eternity away from His presence!
  3. Heb. 13:5: If we DO the will of God, He has promised to never leave or forsake us!
     1. *Heb. 5:9:* He saves those who obey Him!
  4. It is man who rejects God, and when one does this, he is judged accordingly!

## Conclusion

1. David’s charge to Solomon in I Chr. 28:9 is still great advice today!
   1. *Rom. 15:4:* “For whatever was written in earlier times was written for our instruction, so that through perseverance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.”
2. We need to be ever vigilant in our study of God’s word so that we can know:
   1. The God of our fathers
   2. How to serve Him with a whole heart and willing mind
   3. That the Lord searches all of our hearts and understands our thoughts
   4. That if we seek Him, we will find Him
   5. That if we forsake Him, we will be cast off forever
3. David’s charge to Solomon sums up the life of a faithful child of God no matter what time period it is!
4. When we do these things we will have a home in Heaven with the Lord forever!
5. If you are not a Christian, you need to be. Repent and be baptized into His name!
6. If a Christian in error, don’t wait till it’s eternally too late. Repent and be renewed!
7. Whatever your requests, let them be made known ***NOW*** while we stand & sing!