

# God of Knowledge

August 31, 2014

## I. Introduction

### A. God of knowledge is found

1 Sam 2:3 ... For the LORD is the God of knowledge (El De'ot)

### B. Foundations

1. Adam and Eve chose to eat from the fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil  
Gen 2:17 but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it you will surely die." (Gen 2:9, 3:1-7, 11, 17)
2. They were expelled from the Garden of Eden so that they would not eat from the tree of life  
Gen 3:22-23 Then the LORD God said, "Behold, the man has become like one of Us, knowing good and evil; and now, he might stretch out his hand, and take also from the tree of life, and eat, and live forever"-- 23 therefore the LORD God sent him out from the garden of Eden,  
(see Gen 3:22-24)
3. God's people are destroyed and go into exile for lack of knowledge  
Hos 4:6 My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge. Because you have rejected knowledge, I also will reject you from being My priest.  
  
Isa 5:13 Therefore My people go into exile for their lack of knowledge;
4. Jesus' (Messiah) death restores knowledge to His people  
Isa 33:6 And He will be the stability of your times, A wealth of salvation, wisdom and knowledge;  
The fear of the LORD is his treasure.  
  
Isa 53:11 As a result of the anguish of His soul, He will see it and be satisfied; By His knowledge the Righteous One, My Servant, will justify the many, As He will bear their iniquities.
5. The day is coming when the earth will be full of the knowledge of the glory of the Lord.  
Isa 11:9 They will not hurt or destroy in all My holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.  
  
Hab 2:14 "For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.

## II. Definition

### A. Knowledge (De'ot)

1 Sam 2:3 ... For the LORD is the God of knowledge (El De'ot)

### B. yada = is a verb = to know; used 945 X in OT; from this root verb we get the nouns

da'at = is a noun = knowledge; used 90 times in OT

de'ot = is a feminine noun = knowledge; used 6 times in OT

dea' = is a noun = knowledge; used 5 times in OT

### C. Translation

The Mighty One (El) is all knowing and the source of all knowledge. Whatever knowledge man has comes from Him.

### III. The use of (de'ot) Knowledge in OT

**A. Hannah - after the birth of Samuel**, his mother Hannah, who had prayed desperately for a son, praised God in a prayer recorded in 1 Samuel 2. Filled with joy, Hanna exulted,  
1 Sa 2:2-3 There is none holy like the LORD, For there is none beside You, Nor is there any rock like our God. Talk no more so very proudly; Let no arrogance come from your mouth, For the LORD is the God of knowledge; And by Him actions are weighed.

**B. Asaph, (the Psalmist)** knows that God is good to those who are righteous, but is struggling to understand the ways of God, as he sees the wicked prospering.

Ps 73:11 They (wicked) say, "How does God know? And is there knowledge with the Most High?"

The same word is also used for technical knowledge, which we would call "know-how." As a God of knowledge, the Lord is aware of all things, even though the wicked foolishly question His ability to know.

**C. Elihu** is speaking of God's dealings with man.

Job 36:4 For truly my words are not false; One who is perfect in knowledge is with you.

**D. Isaiah prophesies of millennial promises** of blessing (wolf and lamb dwelling together)  
Isa 11:9 For the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD As the waters cover the sea.

**E. Isaiah introduces the gospel** - God wants to teach them knowledge (Isa 28:9) so that they could understand the message

Isa 28:9-11 "To whom would He teach knowledge, and to whom would He interpret the message? Those just weaned from milk? Those just taken from the breast? 10 "For He says, 'Order on order, order on order, Line on line, line on line, A little here, a little there.'" 11 Indeed, He will speak to this people Through stammering lips and a foreign tongue",  
(Isa 28:11 is quoted in 1 Cor 14:20-21)

**F. Jeremiah** speaks about the new covenant blessing

Jer 3:15 "Then I will give you shepherds after My own heart, who will feed you on knowledge and understanding."

### IV. Attributes of God's knowledge:

Translation of several Hebrew and Greek words cover a wide range of meanings; such as intellectual understanding, personal experience, emotion, and personal relationships (including sexual).

#### A. Omniscient - God knows all things

1. He is "a God of knowledge" - a God who sees and knows every single thing.

Ps 139:1-6 O LORD, You have searched me and known me. 2 You know when I sit down and when I rise up; You understand my thought from afar. 3 You scrutinize my path and my lying down, and are intimately acquainted with all my ways. 4 Even before there is a word on my tongue, Behold, O LORD, You know it all. 5 You have enclosed me behind and before, and laid Your hand upon me. 6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; It is too high, I cannot attain to it. (Job 21:22)

2. He knows every act of disobedience.

Jos 22:20 'Did not Achan the son of Zerah act unfaithfully in the things under the ban, and wrath fall on all the congregation of Israel? And that man did not perish alone in his iniquity.' ”

1 Ki 8:39 then hear in heaven Your dwelling place, and forgive and act and render to each according to all his ways, whose heart You know, for You alone know the hearts of all the sons of men,

2 Chr 6:30 then hear from heaven Your dwelling place, and forgive, and render to each according to all his ways, whose heart You know for You alone know the hearts of the sons of men,

## **B. His understanding is beyond measure**

Ps 147:5 Great is our Lord and abundant in strength; His understanding is infinite.

## **C. He knows the thoughts of our mind and heart**

Heb 4:13 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.

1. Heart

Ps 44:21 He knows the secrets of the heart

1 Ki 8:39-40; 2 Ch 6:30 He knows the hearts of all

1 Sa 16:7 the LORD looks at the heart

1 Ch 28:9; Jer 17:10; Ro 8:27; Rev 2:23 the LORD searches the hearts

1 Ch 29:17-18; Ps 7:9 the LORD tries the hearts

Jer 11:20 the LORD tries the feelings and the heart,

Jer 20:12 the LORD sees the heart;

Pr 15:11; 16:2 He knows every hidden motives of the heart

2. Mind

Ps 94:7-11 He knows the thoughts of man,

1 Ch 28:9 He understands every intent of the thoughts

Ps 7:9 the LORD tries the minds

Jer 17:10 the LORD tests the minds

Jer 20:12 the LORD sees the mind

Rev 2:23 the LORD searches the minds

3. His understanding is infinite

Ps 147:5 Great is our Lord and abundant in strength; His understanding is infinite.

## **D. Timeless - He knows**

past events

Gen 30:22 Then God remembered Rachel, and God gave heed to her and opened her womb.

present happenings

Job 31:4 "Does He not see my ways And number all my steps?"

and future events

Lk 1:33 and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and His kingdom will have no end."

**E. Personal** - The knowledge which God has of nations and human beings indicates that He has a personal interest, not merely an awareness of people. The Hebrew word translated "knowledge" is a general term for knowledge typically gained by personal involvement.

1. We are first introduced to God through creation - as the Scriptures declare

Ac 14:16-17 "In the generations gone by He permitted all the nations to go their own ways; and yet He did not leave Himself without witness, in that He did good and gave you rains from heaven and fruitful seasons, satisfying your hearts with food and gladness."

Ps 19:1-2 The heavens are telling of the glory of God; and their expanse is declaring the work of His hands. 2 Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night reveals knowledge.  
(Ro 1:18-23; Ps 144:3)

2. God makes Himself known through His actions, His judgments.

Ex 7:5 "The Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I stretch out My hand on Egypt and bring out the sons of Israel from their midst."

Ex 14:4 "Thus I will harden Pharaoh's heart, and he will chase after them; and I will be honored through Pharaoh and all his army, and the Egyptians will know that I am the LORD." And they did so.  
(Ps 83:13-18; Ezek 6:13; 38:23; 39:6, 23)

3. God makes Himself known to us personally through His dealings with us. Human knowledge of God may be a purely intellectual phenomenon, as when one knows about God through observing the results of his actions, but God's people know him in a personal way because of their relationship with him.

Gal 4:9 But now that you have come to know God, or rather to be known by God,  
(Ro 16:25-26; Mt 11:27; 2 Cor 4:6; Eph 1:17; 1 Jn 5:20)

**F. Purposeful** - To be known by God means that He chooses you to play a part in His purposes in the world.

Jer 1:5 "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I have appointed you a prophet to the nations."

Am 3:1-2 Hear this word which the LORD has spoken against you, sons of Israel, against the entire family which He brought up from the land of Egypt: "You only have I chosen among all the families of the earth; therefore I will punish you for all your iniquities."

Gal 4:9 But now that you have come to know God, or rather to be known by God, how is it that you turn back again to the weak and worthless elemental things, to which you desire to be enslaved all over again?

**The following references were used in this study**

Vines Expository Dictionary  
Rafael Gomez; (pastor on my Bible program)  
Holman Illustrated Bible  
Keil & Delitzsch Commentary  
Every name of God in the Bible  
Dictionary of Bible Themes: