

You Are Being Pursued!

God Pursues His Creation

Even though God is pursuing us, our society knows not God

- “The world through its wisdom is ignorant of God.”
- 1 Corinthians 1:20-25

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- 20 Where is the wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the disputer of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of this world? 21 For since, in the wisdom of God, the world through wisdom did not know God, it pleased God through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe. 22 For Jews request a sign, and Greeks seek after wisdom; 23 but we preach Christ crucified, to the Jews a stumbling block and to the Greeks foolishness, 24 but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. 25 Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.
- NKJV

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- The world has changed but we are still arrogant in our own knowledge.
- Paul says compared to the knowledge of Christ everything else is rubbish.

- Phil 3:7-8
- But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ. 8 Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ
- NKJV

There is a difference between knowing about God and knowing Him.

- In Genesis NKJV Adam knew Eve, but that means more than knowing about a person.
- John 8:55 Jesus knows God. They have the relationship of father and son.

- John 8:55
- 55 Yet you have not known Him, but I know Him. And if I say, 'I do not know Him,' I shall be a liar like you; but I do know Him and keep His word.
- NKJV

Who does God want a relationship with?

- God wants all to come to repentance. Do we? 2 Peter 3:9
- 9 The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.
- NKJV

Who does God want a relationship with?

- Genesis 15:16 God was concerned about the Amorites because he is just.
- 16 But in the fourth generation they shall return here, for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet complete."
- NKJV

Who does God want a relationship with?

- Amos came to Israel because they were puffed up. Amos 9:7
- Jonah didn't understand that God was concerned about the Ninevites: Jonah 4:11
- We think God is a God of Christians.
- A. We put limitations on God thinking that he has tunnel vision.
- B. We are arrogant like the Israelites thinking we are special in ourselves and not having compassion on others.
- Acts 18:9-10 Corinth was an evil place yet God was working in the city.

- Acts 18:9-10
- 9 Now the Lord spoke to Paul in the night by a vision, "**Do not be afraid, but speak, and do not keep silent;** 10 for I am with you, and no one will attack you to hurt you; for **I have many people in this city.**"
- NKJV

We can't see his work if we are focused on ourselves.

- Are our concerns the same as Gods?
Ezekiel 33:11
- Just because he has flocks doesn't mean he's satisfied.
- We are self centered.
- a. We can see it when we pray
- b. 2 Corinthians 5:18 – God is working around us and we might not see what's going on.

We can't see his work if we are focused on ourselves.

- Remember! The Church is the Pillar and ground of the truth. 1 Tim 3:15
- a. Churches split up when people get uncomfortable.
- b. We don't treat each other like we should.
- Yet God has equipped us with what we need.
- a. Ephesians 4:11-16

- Eph 4:11-16

- 11 And He Himself gave some to be **apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers,** 12 for the **equipping of the saints** for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, **13 till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;** 14 that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, 15 but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head--Christ-- 16 from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what **every joint supplies,** according to the effective working by which **every part does its share, causes growth** of the body for the edifying of itself in love.

- NKJV