

“Knowing God”

Sermon Questions

1. Scripture gives its readers many different names for God. Our Old Testament passage found in Exodus 3:7-15 is perhaps the most recognizable. As Moses prepares for his ministry to the Israelites in Egypt, God tells him to refer to him as ‘I AM,’ through the burning bush. In Hebrew, this is four consonant sounds (YHWH), or as we now say, Yahweh. Without consulting study bible notes, concordances, or the internet; when you hear God say that he is “I AM” how do you personally respond? Do you find it helpful or confusing?

As a follow up question, if someone were to ask you what “I AM WHO I AM” (Ex. 3:14) means, what would you say to them?

2. In our New Testament passage (Luke 22:66-23:5) Jesus is before the chief priests and scribes and he refuses to answer who he is, claiming they would not believe him. They then ask him if he is the Son of God and his response is, “you say that I am.”

Why would Jesus respond in this way? Could he have been more clear in this pivotal moment of ministry?

What could Jesus be trying to do with his answers here, and the same answer he later gives to Pilate when asked if he is the King of the Jews, why?

I often wonder why Jesus was not more clear in his last days. Why did Jesus not publicly proclaim once and for all who he was and why he had come before his death?

3. A.W. Tozer once wrote: “...were every man on earth to become atheist, it would not affect God in any way.”

Without reading on, do you agree with this statement? If every person on earth were to deny God, it would not affect God in any way?

Here is the entire quote with a little more context, does it change your opinion?

“Were all human beings suddenly to become blind, still the sun would shine by day and the stars by night, for these owe nothing to the millions who benefit from their light. So, were every man on earth to become atheist, it would not affect God in any way. He is what He is in Himself without regard to any other. To believe in Him adds nothing to His perfections; to doubt Him takes nothing away.” - taken from *The Knowledge of the Holy*.

How does this quote bring to light our scripture readings and knowing of who God is?

As we try to know God and know about God, spend some time discussing how we might be able to do this together. How can we encourage and help each other know God more?