

## Book 1 – Chapter 2: What It Is to Know God—Tendency of This Knowledge

1. “By the knowledge of God, I understand that by which we not only conceive that there is some God, but also apprehend what it is for our interest, and conducive to his glory, what in short, it is befitting to know concerning him.”
  - What does Calvin mean by a twofold knowledge of God?
  - Calvin affirms the importance of acknowledging that God exists and ought to be worshiped and adored, but what else must we be persuaded about concerning God?
  - What does Calvin mean by piety? What teaches us piety?
  - “...until men feel that they owe everything to God, that they are cherished by his paternal care, and that he is the author of all their blessings, so that naught is to be looked for away from him, they will never submit to him in voluntary obedience; no, unless they place their entire happiness in him, they will never yield up their whole selves to him in truth and sincerity.” Is this true? Why or why not?
2. “Those, therefore, who, in considering this question, propose to inquire what the essence of God is, only delude us with frigid speculations—it being much more our interest to know what kind of being God is, and what things are agreeable to his nature.”
  - How does Calvin condemn Epicureanism? Are there any modern-day philosophies similar to Epicureanism?
    - Epicureanism: “Basic Epicurean philosophy proposed that the purpose of life was to experience tranquility through maximizing pleasure and minimizing pain...(they) believed that tranquility was achieved through learning about and then practicing that which constitutes a virtuous life: having close friends, avoiding negative people, and having no fear of the distant gods, judgment, or the afterlife (Lexham Bible Dictionary).”
  - What should be the effect of our knowledge of God?
  - What restrains a man from sin?
  - What is pure and genuine religion?