

**Today's Order of Worship**

Announcements: Greg Lowery

Song Leader: Billy Box

Opening Prayer: Greg Lowery

On the Table: Head - Al Corkren  
Servers - Eddie Dickinson  
Ralph Burleson  
Josh Berryhill

Closing Prayer: David Key

Preparing the Lord's Supper Deborah Box

**Weekly Service Times**

Sunday

Bible Study 10:00 am

Morning Worship 10:45 am

Evening Worship 5:00 pm

Wednesday

Bible Study 7:00 pm

**Visit Our Website**

[www.brilliantchurchofchrist.org](http://www.brilliantchurchofchrist.org)

Elders: Deacons: Al Corkren / Josh Berryhill

Leonard Key / David Key

Billy Box / Eddy Dickinson

Minister: Greg Lowery

**Contact Information:**

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Brilliant Church of Christ

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Brilliant, AL 35548

# For I Know Him



*The  
Brilliant  
Beacon*



**Man’s Need For God**

By Ancil Jenkins

How tragic to have a false knowledge of God. A friend of mine recounted a conversation he had with an acquaintance. My friend said that in the middle of their discussion she suddenly spoke of spiritual matters. She startled him by saying, "There probably isn't a God, and if there is, He might be a she."

What has brought man to this and other false pictures of God? It is not that God has failed to adequately reveal Himself to man. Nature is man's beginning textbook about God (Psalm 19:1; Romans 1:19-20). The Bible is our written source of knowledge of Him. He gave His final, fullest revelation in the person of Jesus (John 5:39; 20:30-31). Jesus told His disciples, "Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father?'" (John 14:9; see also Colossians 1:19; 2:3, 9; Hebrews 1:3).

It seems there are two factors that keep man from knowing God as he should. One is man's intentional ignorance. Although God has provided man with the opportunity to know Him, many see little need or use of knowing Him.

The pride of man hinders his awareness of God. Man's only proper response to God is to praise and honor Him for what He is. This is done by worship in song and prayer. It is characterized by a sacrificial lifestyle. It is even done in the way we eat and drink (1 Corinthians 10:31).

What is the inevitable result of man's refusal to know God and glorify Him? Romans 1 presents two disastrous results. Man degenerates deeper and deeper into sin. His worship becomes idolatry, and his lifestyle becomes sensual. The result is acts that are perverse and are worthy of death (Romans 1 :28-32).

**THOSE WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS**

Mary Rainey: has bone cancer throughout her body, please be praying for her and her family

Billy Lee & Jimmie Ann Hardy {Carolyn’s Brother & Sister} both are in the nursing home in Guin, please continue to pray for them they both have some health issues

Joey Colburn: is taking treatments for cancer, please pray that the treatments will be successful in defeating his cancer

April Tidwell Dawson: she has recently been diagnosed with stomach cancer; please be praying that this cancer will be defeated with successful treatments

Angie Ganey Gardner: breast cancer surgery went well and is waiting learn the next course of treatment, please pray that this cancer will be defeated

Tommy Housh: diagnosed with bladder cancer, please pray that they will be able to successfully defeat this cancer

Ren Garrison (Donna Martin’s Nephew): is still dealing with an issue concerning his heart, please be praying that this issue will be dealt with successfully

Shauna Silas: diagnosed with thyroid cancer, please be praying that with treatments this cancer will be defeated

Ruth Addison: ongoing health problems, please keep her in your prayers

Mary Box: some ongoing other health problems, please keep her in your prayers

Glynda Long: she is fighting stage 4 colon cancer, please pray that this cancer will be defeated

Don Lawrence: recovering from knee replacement, please be praying that he has a successful recovery

**THOSE WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS**

Celia Grace Hamlett, daughter of Gary and Kassie Hamlett, was diagnosed with MLD(Metachromatic Leukodystrophy); planning on gene replacement treatment; please pray that these treatments will be successful.

Virgie McMillan (mother of Ann Box: dealing with complications from a recent stroke, please keep her in your prayers

Karen Chaffin: has had fainting spells, please pray that the doctors can determine what is wrong and that she will have no serious problems

Pray for all those dealing with COVID especially those of the household of faith.

Pam Braden: she is dealing with some ongoing health problems, please pray that those working with her can help her

Bill Berryhill: scans revealed cancer top of his hip; please be praying that treatments will be successful in defeating this cancer

Patty Berryhill: recovering from recent intestinal blockages being removed, please pray that she has no further problems

Larry Alexander: recovering from recent heart attack, please pray that he can make a complete recovery without any complications

Please pray for the family of Janet Spann she passed away last Wednesday; she is the grandmother of Taylor Spann and Haley Watts.

Even more horrifying is God's response. Paul speaks of God giving up on such individuals (Romans 1:24, 26, 28). The inevitable and eventual result of a failure to know God is damnation. When a person deliberately refuses to know God, God reacts the same way.

How these thoughts should cause us to look to God's Word to see if we really know Him as He is! If we do not, let us seek to know Him, for only in Him is life that is life indeed.

*The Voice Of Truth International*, vol. 5, p.8.

**God is Real**

**THE EXISTENCE OF GOD IS DENIED BY MANY  
SOME HAVE CLAIMED THAT THERE ARE MANY GODS.  
SOME HAVE CLAIMED THAT "GOD IS DEAD."**

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**God is Real!**

<p><b>SOMETHING DID NOT COME FROM NOTHING!</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Genesis 1:1</li> <li>• Isaiah 42:5</li> <li>• Genesis 1:6-27</li> <li>• John 1:3</li> <li>• Colossians 1:16</li> </ul> 	<p><b>EVERY EFFECT MUST HAVE AN ADEQUATE CAUSE!</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Job 26:7</li> <li>• Psalm 19:7</li> <li>• Psalm 19:1</li> <li>• Hebrews 1:3</li> <li>• Acts 17:24</li> </ul> 
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	<p><b>A DESIGN IMPLIES A DESIGNER!</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Isaiah 40:22</li> <li>• Genesis 1:3-5</li> <li>• Genesis 1:26-27</li> <li>• John 4:24</li> <li>• Psalm 104:24</li> </ul>	 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>GOD IS REAL!</b></p> 
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**Doing The Father's Will** (Matthew 21:23-32)

By Gary C. Hampton

**A Challenge to Christ's Authority**

Jesus was walking in the temple area when the chief priests, scribes, and elders of the people confronted Him (Mark 11:27). They came at this time to expose Jesus as one who had no authority to teach in or cleanse the temple. It was likely their hope to retake their place as the dominant religious force in the lives of the Jewish people. So, they asked Him where He got His authority to do the things He did.

Jesus promised to answer if they would answer one question from Him. He asked them whether John's baptism was from heaven or men. The problem for these members of the Sanhedrin was readily apparent. If they said John baptized under heaven's authority, He would ask them why they did not believe him. They, after all, had neither been baptized by him nor yielded to the one who came after him, that is, Jesus (John 1:6,7,15,32-34; 3:22-36; 10:40-42). If they said his authority was from men, they would be faced with the anger of the multitudes who believed him. So, they said they did not know. By so answering, they showed an unwillingness to yield to those empowered by God. Therefore, Jesus said He would not answer their question.

**The Repentant Son**

Jesus then told a parable about a father with two sons. The sons clearly represent the two classes of people among the Jews of Christ's day. The first class was that of the common Jewish people. In the parable, the father went to his first son and asked him to go into his vineyard and work. Though he was asked nicely, the son said, "I will not". The publicans and harlots had rejected God's will, as could be seen by their sinful lives. Like this son, they openly refused to do God's bidding.

Later, the first son repented and went to work in his father's vineyard. Similarly, the publicans and harlots had yielded to the teachings of John (Matthew 3:1-6). When Jesus passed through Jericho, He met a publican named Zacchaeus. This man determined to make restitution for any wrongs he had done the people, and got to hear Jesus say, "Today salvation has come to this house, because he also is a son of Abraham" (Luke 19:1-10). In other words, the common folks repented and went when they heard God's Word proclaimed.

**The Son Who Refused To Do The Father's Will**

The second son represents the chief priests, scribes, and elders. When the father asked this son to go work in his vineyard, he immediately said he would. However, he never went. The Pharisees and others who considered themselves to be of the religious elite appeared to be anxious to do as God instructed. Yet, their lives showed disrespect for the Father's wishes (Matthew 3:7-12). Matthew 23 is a record of Jesus' scathing denunciation of their hypocritical response. They pretended to be quite religious while inwardly harboring vile sins.

**Trapped By Their Own Response**

When Jesus asked which of the sons did the will of the father, they had to say the first. The answer now given to the Lord exposes the actions of the Sanhedrin as opposed to those of the publicans and harlots. The religious leaders viewed the common people, especially the publicans and harlots, as having no special knowledge of God's will. They saw them as being ignorant of God's Word. They clearly did not see their response as giving anyone credibility (John 7:45-49).

**Refusing God's Spokesman**

Despite all of this, the publicans and harlots had recognized John as a prophet. They had heeded his call to repentance. The religious leaders had failed to respond to God's call either before or after those they viewed as common sinners. The Pharisees demanded strict adherence to their demands for righteousness. John lived a righteous life. Yet, they refused to accept John as a spokesman in authority from God. The Lord knew such rejection showed the nature of their heart. There was no need for Him to openly proclaim that His authority had come from God. They would reject Him just as they had the Baptizer.

**God Still Calls Us To Work In His Vineyard**

It is important that readers today see the parable as still applicable. All men today must still be called to repentance (Luke 24:46-47; 1 Timothy 2:4). It is not enough to be a good moral person. Instead, each one who would be saved must obey the will of the Father (Matthew 7:21). Just as the father asked his sons to work "today," we must respond now to the Gospel call (Proverbs 27:1; 2 Corinthians 6:2). Further, it is possible to appear to be righteous to those around us without ever intending to do the will of the Father. We must recognize Jesus as God's spokesman for our time, and yield to the message He brought down from the Father (Hebrews 1: 1-4). He made sure all truth was delivered by sending the Holy Spirit. We can know all that is necessary to have eternal life and be God-like (John 16: 13; 2 Peter 1:3). - *The Voice Of Truth International*, vol. 5, p.9-10.