

Sunday, May 24, 2026

Knowing God: He is

Text: Colossians 1:15-17

Doctrine matters because...

- 1. We love God.**
- 2. Belief shapes behavior.**
- 3. It informs our worldview.**
- 4. We need to be equipped to explain what we believe and why we believe it.**

1 Corinthians 1:23 (ESV)

but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles

Acts 5:42 (ESV)

And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching that the Christ is Jesus.

Philippians 1:15-18 (ESV)

15 Some indeed preach Christ from envy and rivalry, but others from good will. 16 The latter do it out of love, knowing that I am put here for the defense of the gospel. 17 The former proclaim Christ out of selfish ambition, not sincerely but thinking to afflict me in my imprisonment. 18 What then? Only that in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is proclaimed, and in that I rejoice.

Acts 8:5 (ESV)

5 Philip went down to the city of Samaria and proclaimed to them the Christ.

Acts 9:22 (ESV)

But Saul increased all the more in strength, and confounded the Jews who lived in Damascus by proving that Jesus was the Christ.

Acts 18:5 (ESV)

When Silas and Timothy arrived from Macedonia, Paul was occupied with the word, testifying to the Jews that the Christ was Jesus.

Ephesians 3:8 (ESV)

To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ

Colossians 1:28 (ESV)

Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

1. He is The Lord (v.15)

- His divinity - v. 15a
 - As the image, Jesus is the exact revelation of God.
 - John 14:9 (ESV)—Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’?”
 - Hebrews 1:3 (ESV)—He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high
- His supremacy - v. 15b
 - Psalm 89:27 (ESV)—And I will make him the firstborn, the highest of the kings of the earth.

2. He is the Life of His Creation (v. 16-17)

- His power - v. 16
 - John 1:1-4 (ESV)—1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. 4 In him was life, and the life was the light of men.
- His precedence - v. 17a
- His preservation - v. 17b

3. He is the Leader of His Church (v. 18-20)

Why is He the focus of the church? Because of...

1. The Position He Holds (v. 18b)
 - He is in charge!
 - Ephesians 4:15-16 (ESV)—15 Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, 16 into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when

each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

2. The Preeminence He Has (v. 18b)
3. The Person He Is (v. 19)
 - All of God comes to us in Christ.
 - 100% divine and 100% man
 - Ephesians 1:3-4 (ESV)—3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, 4 even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him.
4. The Peace He Made (v. 20)
 - Philippians 3:8 (The Message)—Yes, all the things I once thought were so important are gone from my life. Compared to the high privilege of knowing Christ Jesus as my Master, firsthand, everything I once thought I had going for me is insignificant—dog dung. I've dumped it all in the trash so that I could embrace Christ.

**The question of “Who He Is” is settled in Scripture.
But is it settled in your heart?**

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