**Acquaint (familiar with, having mutual interests & affections, within normal everyday experience) now thyself with Him, and be at peace: thereby good shall come unto thee.**

**Thus saith the Lord, Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, neither let the mighty glory in his might, let not the rich glory in his riches: but let him that glorieth glory in this, that he understandeth, and knoweth Me, that I am the Lord. Jer. 9:23-24**

**An unknown God can be neither trusted, served or worshipped….**

**Nor feared, reverence, or obeyed.**

**Then shall we know, if we follow on to know the Lord. Hos 6:3**

**The people that do know their God shall be strong…**

 **Dan. 11:32**

**If you don’t grasp that God is awe-inspiring….**

**Possesses worship-provoking grandeur…**

**You can never value His presence in your life..**

**Nor live in confident peace that He knows & cares.**

**Many acknowledge that God is great in wisdom…**

**Possesses incredible power**

 **Is full of mercy…**

**But who of us entertain anything that approaches an adequate conception of His Being…**

 **His nature…**

 **His attributes..**

**Composers in music..**

 **Artists in oil, rock…**

 **Writers….**

 **Orator in words.**

 **Builder in design..**

**But who can fathom or convey the excellency of God?**

**Who is like unto Thee, O Lord,….**

**Who is like Thee, glorious in Holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders. Ex 15:11**

**In the beginning God…**

**No heaven that declares His glory..**

**No earth to engage His attention, or move toward His purpose..**

**No angels to cry holy, or do His bidding**

**No creation upheld by the word of His power…**

**Nothing… no one, but God.**

**If the span could be measured…**

**When there was nothing but God..**

 **How long??**

**When Paul wants us to put in perspective the problems of life..**

 **But God…**

**God has need of nothing..**

 **He is self-contained..**

 **Self-sufficient**

**If a universe..**

**Angels – man had been needed to Him...**

**Called them into existence from eternity**

**After God created all He made..**

**Nothing was added to Him essentially..**

**He changes not – Mal 3:6**

**His glory cannot be augmented or diminished.**

**He is under no constraint, obligation, or necessity.**

**That He chose to create worlds…**

 **And you…. And me..**

 **Was a sovereign act**

**‘..for He worketh all things after the counsel of His own will’ Eph 1:11**

**Creation is simply a manifestation of His glory.**

**What He has willed to do..**

**Didn’t begin to approach the end of majesty.**

**For who hath known the mind of the Lord? Or who hath been His counsellor? Or who hath given to Him, and it was recompensed to him again? For of Him, and through Him, and to Him are all things: to whom be glory forever.**

 **Rom. 11:34-36**

**It is impossible to bring God under obligation to His creation.**

**If thou be righteous, what givest thou Him? Or what receiveth He of thine hand? Thy wickedness may hurt a man as thou art; and thy righteousness may profit the son of man. Job 35:7-8**

**Man is an unprofitable servant… Luke 17:10**

**Our obedience profits God – nothing.**

**“Behold, the nations are as a drop of a bucket, and are counted as the small dust of the balance: behold, He taketh up the isles as a very little thing.**

**And Lebanon is not sufficient to burn, not the beasts thereof sufficient for a burnt offering.**

**All nations before Him are as nothing; and they are counted to Him less than nothing, and vanity. To whom then will ye liken God? Or what likeness will ye compare unto Him.’ Isa 40:15-18**

 **(expound)**

**God whose majesty, etc..**

**Cannot be found by searching..**

**Comprehended by human knowledge**

**Must reveal Himself to us…**

**By the Holy Spirit thru Jesus Christ..His word.**

**Creation so clearly demonstrates His glory that we are without excuse…**

 **Yet when we know Him only thru the majesty of His creation…**

**‘these are but the outer fringes of His works, and how faint a whisper we hear of Him.’ Job 26:14**

**If you’ve ever seen a watch..**

 **Infers a watchmaker..**

**Can you infer from the watch the personality, personal affections, manners, or moral attributes of the watchmaker?**

**How accurate would your conception of the real man who made the watch be?**

**Could you say, I’m acquainted with him?**

**God is spirit…**

**Must be worshipped (worth ship) in spirit & truth…**

**Natural man..**

 **After the flesh..**

**In the knowledge of men..**

**‘he cannot see the things of God.’ Jn 3:3**

 **‘apprehend them.’**

 **1 cor. 2:15**

**The Holy Ghost must shine into our hearts, not our intellects to give us ‘the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.’ 2 Cor 4:6**

**Here’s the mandate..**

 **‘..walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God.’**

 **Col. 1:10**

**‘Known unto God are all His works, from the beginning of the world.’**

 **Acts 15:18**

**What’s my point???**

**Have I taken the interest in God that He has taken in me?**

**God works by decree..**

**‘decree – choq – an appointment of time, space, quantity, labor, or usage.’**

**God’s purposes are ‘eternal’ Eph 3:11**

**Purpose (prothesis- shewbread- type of Christ)**

 **Shew – declare or tell**

 **Bread - food**

**Both the table & the bread represent Christ..**

**1st mention of Table in scripture..**

 **1 or 3 Crowned**

 **Table in Transit**

 **Psa 23:5 ‘..preparest a table b4 me in presence.’**

**All the eternal purposes of God are discovered and answered in Christ!**

**He acts by, ‘His determinate (horizo- decree) counsel (boule – volition or purpose) and foreknowledge.’ Act 2:23**

**If God’s volition or will is all He needs for counsel..**

**Why would we need any other?**

**History is the expression of the ‘mystery (musterion) of His will’**

 **Eph 1:9**

**Rom 8:28 He predestinates**

**Eph 1:18 according to His good pleasure.**

**Eph 1:11 ‘ by the counsel of His own will.’**

**Predestinate.. before destiny (a course of events that will inevitably happen in the future)**

**God works with an eternal purpose in mind..**

**What He created He created as the means to fulfill His eternal purpose.**

**You were created for eternal purpose (with Christ in mind..)**

**You were created by the counsel (decree) of His own will**

**It’s why He numbers our days and the hairs on our head..**

**God reaches to the most insignificant creatures in their most minute moments – the death of a sparrow..**

 **The loss of a hair..**

**To express His intent & interest toward us.**

**God has never acted in time that which He first hadn’t decreed in eternity..**

**To suppose that God acted in time is suppose that some occasion has occurred..**

**Some unforeseen circumstance or event arose**

**Which God had not anticipated…**

**And had to form a new plan of action..**

**Therefore God would become wiser as time progressed.**

**“O Lord, how manifold are Thy works! In wisdom Thou hast made them all.’**

 **Psa. 104:24**

**O the depth of the riches! Both of the wisdom and knowledge of God.**

 **Rom. 11:33**

**Who hath directed the Spirit of the Lord, or being His counsellor hath taught Him? With whom took he counsel, and who instructed Him, and taught Him the path of judgment, and taught Him knowledge, and showed Him the way of understanding.’ Isa 40**

**He knoweth what is in the darkness Dan. 2:22**

**Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high, I cannot attain it.’**

 **Psa 139:6**

**Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in His sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of Him with whom we have to do.’ Heb. 4:13**

 **Not willing any perish..**

**“Thou knowest my downsitting and mine uprising, Thou understandest my thoughts afar off. Thou compassest my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways. For there is not a word of my tongue but, O Lord, Thou knowest it altogether.’ Psa 139:2-4**

**“For I know the things that come into you mind, every one of them.’ Eze 11:5**

**The trees of the garden were not able to conceal our parents..**

**Cain couldn’t not hide Able well enough…**

**Sarah’s laugh in the privacy of her tent was heard at the Throne of God…**

**Achan could hide his gold and garments from Moses, but God uncovered them..**

**David took great pains to cover up his sin..**

**But the prophet could say boldly because God had seen…**

 **‘thou art the man’**

**Man may wish there was no witness to sin..**

 **Nor searcher of the heart**

**‘They consider not in their hearts that I remember all their wickedness.’ Hos 7:2**

**What if God had never found Adam & Eve…**

 **Or heard Sarah’s laugh**

 **Or exposed David’s sin**

**What if God couldn’t find me out….**

**My heart hidden from Him…**

 **Not willing that any….**

**Exposure reveals more than the sin…**

**Reveals who we are by our response…**

**Two sided coin..**

**In times of perplexity...**

**When Job couldn’t reason out the why’s of life…**

**‘He knoweth the way that I take..’ 23:10**

 **Passages of life..**

**What is incomprehensible to me..**

**A profound mystery to my friends..**

 **“He knoweth the way”**

**In times of weakness He assures me that, ‘He knoweth our frame; He remembereth that we are dust’ Psa 103:14**

**In times of doubt & self-suspicion…**

**I appeal to this very attribute of His knowledge.**

**‘Search me O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts; and see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.’ Psa 139:23-24**

**When I find myself in Simon Peter’s predicament**

**Sad failure…**

**My actions have belied my own heart.**

**My deed/s have repudiated my devotion**

**And He searches me with this question…**

 **Lovest thou Me?**

**“Lord, Thou knowest all thing; Thou knowest that I love thee.” John 21:17**

**To know Him..**

 **Is to have mutual…**

 **Normal everyday**

 **Well recognize..**

**No reason to fear I’m invisible to His notice…**

**Beyond the reach of His ear..**

 **Outside His concern..**

 **Fallen out of His hand**

**‘It shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear’ Isa. 65:24**

**‘For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin.’**

 **Heb. 4:15**

**“Great is our Lord, and of**

**great power; His understanding is infinite.’**

 **Psa 147:5**

**God’s knowledge of the future is as complete as is His knowledge of the past….**

**He has decreed the future with eternal purpose.**

**He doeth according to His will in the army of heaven, and the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay His hand. Dan. 4:35**

**There are many devices in the man’s heart; nevertheless the counsel of the Lord, that shall stand.’ Prov 19:21**

**He is without variableness or shadow of turning…**

 **James 1:17**

**In despair…**

**In a wilderness of lost hope..**

**In the sense of abandonment..**

**We should at least have Hagar’s vision…**

 **Thou God seest me**

**You are acquainted with me…..**

**To find the peace & good I seek…**

**I desire to become as acquainted with You!**

**Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me…**