

Hosea

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Preacher: Dawson, Herbert (1890-1969)

- [0 : 00] ...unspeakable importance, and that is to know the Lord. And that means more than to hear about Him, sing about Him, read about Him.
- It is that knowledge of the Lord which a man cannot receive, except it be given him from heaven.
- And it is a wonderful mercy if many of you this Sabbath morn are concerned to know the Lord, and to know Him from this viewpoint, my Lord and my God.
- And I would encourage you regarding that concern, because such a concern cannot arise from what you are by nature.
- If you feel that concern, and day by day you are waiting on the Lord, that He will grant you that knowledge, saving knowledge, that you may know Him as my Lord, as I have said, then God has already done something for you.
- [1 : 28] He has wrought a miracle within you. The Savior speaks a word of encouragement, especially for you.
- Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled. And now, in this subject, there is a graduated experience, and it takes in every sinner born again.
- What I mean is this. Sometimes when you look into the Word of God, you cannot feel that you can take courage from what you read, because you do not feel that you are the character that is referred to.
- When the Word of God speaks about the Godly, and the righteous, and the holy brethren, and saints, you ponder those words in your heart, and you seem to feel a hesitation in trying to enter into what words are recorded to such characters.
- And now, if you are born again, this does describe you, however much as yet you know, or are waiting to know, concerning the things of God.
- [3 : 07] As soon as a sinner is born again, he begins to follow on to know the Lord. He finds in his breast a deep-down concern, and he knows that without this knowledge, he cannot enter through the gates of parole.
- Then shall we know, if we follow on to know the Lord. And now I want to look at the subject from three or four viewpoints of it, and I should like to say something to encourage you to hope in God, and to help you to follow on to know the Lord.
- And you must remember, if you want religion that God is the author of, you cannot learn it in any way that is easy.
- The things of God are of supreme importance, and God has laid down one line of things which every sinner following on to know the Lord must enter into.
- We must, through much tribulation, enter into the kingdom of God. And in that word being quoted, that does not mean primarily heaven itself.
- [4 : 36] It means that it is as you go through deep waters and go into fiery trials, that the things of God are made a reality to you.

The kingdom of God is viewed in that scripture so often quoted from that viewpoint. We can only know the things of God are right as they are known, tasted, handled, and felt.

Head knowledge, although it may be correct knowledge, and there are many who may have a very correct creed, but good creeds may stock our heads about, and in our hearts no grace be found.

And now that is a solemn consideration. And to feel that one has got a correct knowledge, head knowledge, and can speak about the things of God after the doctrine thereof, and yet lacks the one thing needful.

Then shall we know if we follow on to know the Lord. And now one thing you will be concerned about if you are following on to know the Lord, and that is that you may not be deceived or deceive others.

[6 : 08] There will be one scripture that will sometimes look at you, and it will cause you much searching of heart, lest at the end of the journey, with all that you have professed to be, among the people of God, it should be said, teakle, weighed in the balances, and found wanting.

Wanting, a God-given knowledge of the Lord, and yet, having a correct creed. I do want you dear people, to weigh these things up, and ponder them, in your heart.

For in my life's evening time as the pastor, I have many searchings apart, and I want you to be searched also, that you may get right down to bedrock, and not rest, in following on to know the Lord, until you can say, on Christ the solid rock I stand, all other ground is sinking sand.

And now, I would look at this subject, if the Lord should help me, from four viewpoints. one is, one is, the experience, and that is, to know the Lord.

Then, there is the exercise concern in it, and that is, to follow on to know the Lord. And then, the subject brings before us, encouragement.

[7 : 45] His going forth, is prepared, as the morning. If you are following on to know the Lord, and have been doing so, for a long while in life's journey, then you can look back, and see, where, God has come into your life, and done great things, for you, and, they have been done at the right time, for you, and yours, and you can see, there is an overrule in providence, that wisely marshals, every circumstance.

His going forth is prepared. God does nothing by chance, or aphazard. He sees the end of a thing, from the beginning. And once he sets a sinner, going, following on to know him, his life is lined out, in every detail of it.

And, good it is sometimes, to realize, the steps of a good man, are ordered by the Lord, and he delightseth in his way.

Sovereign ruler of the skies, ever gracious, ever wise, that is what you've got to learn, in following on to know the Lord. Ever gracious, ever wise, not, be like Jacob, when he said, all these things are against me, but to realize, as these things are unfolded, whoso is wise, and will observe these things, even they shall understand, the loving kindness, of the Lord.

His going forth is prepared, as the morning. And so, if events come into our lives, and they do, every day, new straits attend, it is good to remember, while you may be, at the present time, walking in obscurity, and darkness, much in the dark, as to the why and wherefore, of the Lord's dealings, what are you to learn, in following on, weeping may endure, for a night, but joy cometh, in the morning.

[10 : 07] Here it is, it's going forth, it's prepared, as the morning. And then, there is this expectation, and he shall come, unto us, as the rain, as the latter, and former rain, unto, the earth.

Then, let us begin, at that opening word, for it is important. Then, takes us back, in the chapter, to the beginning. And what is the beginning?

Do you, follow it along, and ponder it? Come, and let us return, unto the Lord. For he hath torn, and he will heal us.

He hath smitten, and he will bind us up. And now, here is a representation, of a poor sinner, under conviction, of sin.

And this is a beautiful, description of it. He hath torn, and he will heal us. He hath smitten, and he will bind us up.

[11 : 24] In a gracious, heaven sent, conviction of sin, there is, an experience, what it is to be torn, and smitten, in one's feelings, and in one's, conscience.

And yet, there is encouragement. Sinner, if thou art taught, to see, how great thy guilt, thy misery, in every thought, and act impure, the blood of Christ, thy soul, can cure.

And this, following verse, is very, cheering. after two days, he will revive us.

And in the third day, he will raise us up, and we shall live in his sight. You see, God, is a sovereign, in how he leads his people, into the truth.

some, are under, a solemn conviction, of sin, and under the law, in their soul's feelings, a long while, and, feel that the, powers of hell, get hold upon them.

[12 : 45] Others, are led into, the truth, of their sinnership, here a little, there a little, line upon line, precept, upon precept.

But in each instance, however the Lord, is pleased to leave, there is the guarantee, after two days, will he revive us.

In the third day, he will raise us up, and we shall live, in his sight. Does this give you, a thought in your mind, about the, resurrection, resurrection, of Jesus Christ, our Lord, when the whole, church of Christ, rose in him, triumphant, over sin, and death, and hell, in the third day, he will raise us up, and we shall live, in his sight.

And now, it is then, a sinner, who is aware, with a God given, knowledge, that he is a sinner. And I hope, that includes, many of us, under Union Chapel, Ruth.

And it is, to such sinners, sinners born again, yet as yet, they may not, be able to say much, about the dealings, of God, as to, being happy, in the knowledge, of the Lord, that they possess, for they are being, taught, the plague, of their own hearts, and more ready, to say, depth of mercy, can there be, mercy for, a wretch, like me.

[14 : 27] And now, this is where, the word then, comes in. Then, if God has led us, into the truth, of what one is, by nature, there is help in God, there is hope in God, the gospel, is let down, into this world, and is to be preached, to mankind, to let them all know, that, there is, mercy, for poor sinners, who feel, their deep down, need of it, and who, realize, salvation, is, of, the Lord, who stand, every day, as they follow on, to know the Lord, where the publicans, stood, and there is nowhere else, you can really stand, God be merciful, to me, a sinner, then, shall we know, but I want to look, especially, at the nature, of this, knowledge, the knowledge, of the Lord, and remember, my dear friends,

I'm not telling you, just intellectual things, nor is this, intellectual knowledge, no, it is a life, and death matter, you must, know the Lord, as he, alone, can, lead you, into that knowledge, and realize, that, you belong, to him, by everlasting ties, or be lost, and oh, it is a terrible thing, to contemplate, what it is, to be, lost, then, shall we know, if we follow, on to know the Lord, and in this, following on, although the Lord, has given you, you humbly hope, some knowledge, of his holy majesty, some encouragement, in following on, you will never be content, with what you already know, you will have this feeling, to know my Jesus, crucified, by far excels, all things, beside, and in your everyday life, you will follow on, to know the Lord, in how you live, and what you do, and what you say, and where you go, and the company you keep, religion, that is of God, is related, to our everyday lives, hoard up the sacred, word, and feed thereon, and grow, go on to seek, to know the Lord, and practice, what you know, then, shall we know, if we follow on, to know, the Lord, and I might turn aside, and make this comment, it is a wonderful mercy, if God has made you teachable, the meek, will he guide in judgment, and the meek, will he teach, his way, if you feel, you already know, this and that, then, you cannot be teachable, but,

I like, what Job says, that which I know not, and oh, how much it is, teach, thou, me, do you ask God, to make you teachable, you dear young people, who have your own thoughts, your own thoughts, it may be about chapel going, and sometimes, feel that you wish, things were otherwise, than they are, do you ask the Lord, to make you teachable, and show you, the unspeakable importance, that whatever else, you may know in this life, and you may know much, that will fit you to fill, a useful sphere, in the world at large, and be a benefit, to your fellow creatures, in filling it, but that is not the knowledge, of the Lord, he communicates that knowledge, to you, to fit you, for this life, but this knowledge, is for this life, and the life, that is to come, then, with that, understanding, weighing, weighing upon us, day by day, then, shall we know, if we follow on, to know, the Lord, and now,

I said, this knowledge of God, is a life and death matter, and I say this, it is absolutely, necessary, and do remember, while it can be expressed, in a creed, yet, you can have, a creed, and be able, to argue about it, dispute, on matters of doctrine, but dear friends, the great thing, is this, come and hear, all ye, that fear God, I will tell you, what he has done, for my soul, and when you can tell out, what God has done, for your soul, that is for your, eternal good, and it is, for the glory of God, then shall we know, if we follow on, to know, the Lord, and now, this knowledge of the Lord, is heavenly, in its nature,

I often quote that word, a man can receive nothing, except it be given him, from heaven, then that means, if you and I, are going to heaven, we must have some religion, that comes from heaven, to fit us to go there, otherwise, we shall never see, the gates of Pearl, to enter therein, and this knowledge also, is sovereign, in its nature, that is evidence, as you may have observed, in watching the dealings of God, with his people, you see, some, who as regards the things, of this life, cannot take a big place in it, because they are not fitted for it, but they are just, humble people, content to dwell, where they were born, and fill that niche, that God has placed them in, and though they cannot, mix among the great, which they do not, desire to do, yet, they have dealings, with God, and their pleasure, is to follow on, to know the Lord, and when they get, something, from the Lord, to build them up, in a good hope, through grace, oh, that fills them, with happiness, happiness, and that happiness, abides, for time, and for, eternity too,

[22 : 19] I will be gracious, to whom I will be gracious, I will have mercy, upon whom, I will have mercy, this is what, human nature, resents, and, fights against, that God, should, have chosen a people, out of the mighty mass, of mankind, and he did that, before the world, was built, or time, was born, but you find, many, yay, very many, religious folks, who have an idea, a hope, that they themselves, know the Lord, and are going to heaven, yet when, you come to the doctrine, of election, they fight against it, and will have none of it, hey, but, people who do, follow on, to know the Lord, are right, they have lodged, in their hearts, a feeling, like this, had not, thy choice, prevented, mine,

I ne'er, had chosen, thee, the carnal mind, is enmity, against God, is not subject, to the law of God, and neither, indeed, can, thee, then, shall we know, if we follow on, to know, the Lord, and now, when you have, this knowledge, lost in your heart, there are one, or two characteristics, you will find, and that is, it will liberate you, you shall know the truth, and the truth, shall make you, free, it will liberate you, from, being in the world, and of it, and living according, to the world's, maxims, and conventions, you will hear that voice, come ye out, from among them, touch not the unclean thing, be ye separate, and glad you will be, to be separate, from the world at large, and feel, like the Selmist,

I would rather be a doorkeeper, in the house of my God, than to dwell, in the tents of, wickedness, oh it is, a liberating, knowledge, and there is this, wonderful characteristic, that, the more you do know, the Lord, the more you find, in your heart, a concern to know him, yet more, and more, and you will understand, our hymn writer, when he said, oh could I know, and love him more, and all his wondrous, grace explore, ne'er would I covet, man's esteem, but part with all, and follow, him, then shall we know, if, we follow on, to know the Lord, mark that word is, what little, you do know, will, give you, a concern, to know, yet more, and, in your everyday life, you will be, seeking to do this, we follow on, to know the Lord, in the matters, that come into, your everyday lives, there are things, to do with you, your own soul, and your concern, should be, to grow in grace, and in the knowledge, of our Lord, and Savior,

Jesus Christ, then there are things, that come, into your everyday life, there are things, which sometimes, the post brings, when you may get, a knock down blow, in a letter, through the post, some new trial, arises, on account of it, or it may be, to do, with the children, God has given you, and your concern, to train them up, in the way, in which they, should go, and in all the counsel, you give them, it must be that, which is to do, with, knowing, the Lord, what his will is, his purpose, and that, he will, remember them, with the favor, that he bears, to his people, and visit them, with their, with it, with his salvation, then shall we know, if we follow on, to know, the Lord, and it might be helpful, if I look at, some other characteristics, of this knowledge,

Jesus Christ, is known as, Jehovah, Sidkenu, the Lord, our, right, righteousness, and now, that will be, the feature, in your following on, to know the Lord, you will, be taught, this truth, not the labor, of my hands, can fulfill, the law's, demands, and, you know that, without the righteousness, of God, which is, through faith, in Jesus Christ, you will never, be made meet, to enter, into the inheritance, of the saints, in life, therefore, that will be, one thing, you will follow on, to know the Lord, for, to know his name, in your soul's, experience, as Jehovah, Sidkenu, the Lord, our, righteousness, and, it is, a very great, experience, when you can, feel, that, the righteousness, of God, is a clothing, the spirit of God, as put upon you, in your soul's, experience, and in that viewpoint, you know the Lord, as Jehovah,

[28 : 35] Sidkenu, and then, there is another name, given to the Lord, and that is, Jehovah, roe by the Lord, which healeth, I think that is, one of the most, beautiful, names, given to the Lord, Jesus, set forth, in the word of God, how you see it manifest, as you read, in the gospels, of Jesus Christ, verily man, verily God, going about, doing good, and how often you read, and he healed them, and he healed them all, and he healed, all them, that had, need, of, healing, and now, when you come up, to worship God, when you, bow your heads, before God, to ask, for divine aid, a blessing, indeed, you have got, something, like that, in your following, on to know the Lord, heal us,

Emmanuel, here we are, waiting to feel, thy touch, deep wounded souls, to thee repair, Savior, we are such, to know the Lord, as, Jehovah, roe by, then, shall we know, if we follow on, to know, the Lord, this word, if, is a very, searching word, only two letters, I have, but, everything, hinges, upon you, heeding it, then, shall we know, if we do not, settle down, on our leaves, and be content, with what little, we think we do know, eh, but you will not, be allowed to do that, if, God in his mercy, has set you going, following on, to know the Lord, you will want, this word, if, to be wrought out, in your soul's, exercises, then, shall we know, if we follow on, to know, the Lord, and you cannot, be content, you cannot feel, any peace of mind, you cannot feel, that matters are right, between your soul, and God, unless you do, follow on, to know, the Lord,

I told you, at the outset, it is a life, and death, matter, it is a matter, of eternal moment, if, we follow on, to know, the Lord, and as you were here, in the attitude, of worship, you have already, been engaged, in this exercise, we follow on, to know, the Lord, think of what you asked, God to do for you, ere you came, or since you have come, under Union Chapel route, and it answers to this, we follow on, to know, the Lord, surely you have said, and ask the Lord, to, lead his servant, into the truth, that it might be made, in your soul's experience, a blessed reality, and that you might get, some help by the way, some token for good, some new evidence, that you were being led for, by the right way, we follow on, to know, the Lord, blessed spirit of Christ, descend on us thus, thy servant assist, teaching, to teach us, and there are those, in the assembly here, who will say,

Amen, you were following on, to know, the Lord, you were not come, just to hear, a sermon, nor, you have come, to hear, the gospel, with ears to hear, and a heart to receive it, as good tidings, of great joy, if God shall so, bless it to you, in listening to it, then shall we know, the assembly here, who will say, Amen, you were following on, to know, the Lord, you were not come, just to hear, a sermon, nor, you have come, to hear, the gospel, with ears to hear, and a heart to receive it, as good tidings, of great joy, if God shall so, bless it to you, in listening to it, then shall we know, if we follow on, to know, the Lord, his, going forth, is prepared, as, the morning, and now, in this following on,

I said it embraces, our everyday life, in every aspect of it, what aspect, of your everyday life, could you leave out, and think you can do that, on your own initiative, you do not need, to ask the Lord, to help you, regarding that, it is just to do, with everyday matters, if you should ever, venture to, act like that, you will learn, the folly of it, yes, you will realize, in following on, to know the Lord, you need, his divine aid, in all things, to do with your, everyday life, as you are, living it, whether it be, to do with you, or yours, or your business, or as the future, shall unfold, before you, you see, you have got to learn this, if thy presence, go not, with me, carry me not, off hence, in the way you go, everything hinges, on, knowing the Lord, therein, and that he, is your guide, the Lord of hosts, is with us, the God of Jacob, is our, refuge, then, shall we know, if we follow on, to know, the Lord, and I do not know, how you find it, but,

[35 : 07] I am sure you find it, like I do, that you need, to know the Lord, what is, his will for you, in all the varied details, of your, life, and how glad you are, when you can see, his hand, ordering, your everyday, life, and things, working together, for your good, and you hope, for his, glory, and now, in this following on, to know the Lord, there is a following on, to know him, in the profession, of his, name, for there are those, who, when they are sinners, born again, as they begin, to follow on, to know the Lord, and they learn, what his word declares, in all places, where I record my name, there will I come, and bless thee, you will want to be, in those places, as grace is given, you will want to be, in every one, of those places, and one is, to follow him, in, what he has laid down, in the word of his grace, as the way, you enter into, a church, to become a member, thereof, and, to follow, the Lord, in a profession, of his dear name, and to be baptized, in his name, and show the world, whose you are, and whom, you serve,

Jesus says, to each believer, be baptized, in my name, he himself, in Jordan's river, was immersed, beneath, the stream, and, when these things, are set before you, you will find, in your heart, if you are following on, to know the Lord, a response, who can tell, but what God, will be gracious to me, if he will grant me, the privilege, and permission, to do that, and follow him, in the footsteps, that he himself, trod, when he was baptized, in Jordan's river, and you may, be favored, to do so, and, you must not, set up a standard, in your heart, your conscience, as to what you want, the Lord to do for you, before you would, do this thing, for him, and follow him, in his own ordinances, and be baptized, in his name, no, you must, look at it like this, what saith the scriptures, then they, that gladly received his word, were baptized, you may say, oh there are many things, as yet,

I do not feel to know, and until I do know them, I do not feel, that I can, make such a venture, but it may be, if you followed, on to know the Lord, in making the venture, that on the other side, of the baptismal pool, you would find, in your soul's experience, a blessing indeed, you must not, try to bargain, with God, oh I do think, that is a thing, that is very, reprehensible, and, people sometimes, do it, if God would do this, then I will do that, away with it, the word of God, does not give you, any warrant, any permission, whatever, to deal with God, in a way of bargaining, it is what, set the scriptures, and then, it is for you, in keeping his commandments, commandments, not invitations, so that you can, consider it from that viewpoint, but if you are following on, to know the Lord, it is a commandment, and in keeping his commandments, not for keeping, there is great reward, do remember that,

I had no thought, of bringing that line of things, into the sermon, but still, it might be a word in season, and remember this, then, shall we know, if we follow on, to know the Lord, and that means, to follow the Lord, wherever, he, shall lead you, and in the word of God, it is said, where he trod, with his holy feet, when he dwelt on earth, as Emmanuel, God with us, and, you will have to learn, to follow on, to know the Lord, in the same way, that Jesus himself, trod, with his own, holy feet, here unto, are ye called, Christ also, suffered for us, leaving us, an example, that ye, should follow, in his, steps, the Lord, help you, to do something, about it, then, shall we know, if we follow on, to know, the Lord, and I have already, hinted, there will be a following, on to know the Lord, in our worship, and that not only means, in listening to the gospel, preached, it means, all branches, of worship, in singing, the songs of Zion, you will follow on, to know, the Lord, therein, glad you will be, to sing some of the songs, of Zion, for they tell out, what you know, that you feel, in your own heart, and you can sing praises, with understanding, and follow on, to know the Lord, in doing it, and in the word of God, searching the scriptures, in whatever is read, in the, in the services, you can, follow on, to know the Lord, desiring, to be led, into the truth, that it might be, made a reality, in your soul's, experience, and in, the public prayer, although I wish, my public prayers, were more profitable, than I often feel, they are, but you can, follow on, to know the Lord, and say amen, to this petition, and that, that touches a chord, in your own, soul's, feelings, and so, you go right through, the worship of God, and, you can follow on, to know the Lord, when, they that fear the Lord, speak often, one to another, the Lord, heartened, and heard it, have you ever noticed, that word, hearkened, there is no, repetition, in the word of God, vain repetition, the Lord, heartened, as it were, as we do, he assumed, a listening attitude, to hear, what was being said, and if you are not, saying anything, the Lord, does not hear anything, but, if you were speaking, about him, and about his truth, speaking, one to another, that the Lord, is good, a stronghold, in the day of trouble, and he knoweth, them that trust in him, and now you have proved this, in his dealings with you, the Lord is heartening, listening, and the Lord, taketh pleasure, in what he hears, when you are telling out, his dealings with you, for your good, and you desire it to be, for his glory, then shall we know, if we follow on, to know, the Lord, his going forth, is prepared, as, the morning, and there is one other aspect, of this following on, we follow on, to know the Lord, in his sufferings,

oh, when you come to think, of the sufferings of Christ, you are lost, in amazement, at the magnitude, of what the sufferings of Christ, really were, we can never begin to, understand it, when, Christ, suffered, and died, for the ungodly, as the word of God declares, but, his people, as they follow on, to know the Lord, each one, will be given a cross, and what did the Savior say, he that taketh not up his cross, and followeth after me, cannot be my disciple, you might think, of that scripture, he that taketh not up his cross, I have told you sometimes, I will tell you once more, it means, that you do it, voluntarily, you have it in your heart, to do it, following on, to know, the Lord, and if he allots, any suffering, for you, or yours, you desire, to follow on, to know the Lord, and what his will, is therein, and you follow on, to know the Lord, like this,

[44 : 53] Lord, I would indeed submit, gladly yield, my all to thee, what thy wisdom, sees most fit, must be surely best, for me, you take up the cross, and sometimes, you are, glad, that the Lord, has not left you, cross less, remember that, I remember, reading, of an old, Scotch, woman, who was inquired, inquired off, concerning, someone, that belonged, to the church, where she went to, and the minister, was addressing her, and, this man, was not, what he should be, and following on, to know the Lord, and the old, woman said, the Lord does not, think enough of him, to give him a clump, and now, that may sound, strange, but, there's a great deal, of truth in that, you say, thank you to God, for your cross, and follow on, to know the Lord, in it, and you will know, in the ultimate issue, no cross, no crown, then, shall we know, if we follow on, to know the Lord, and we do know him, sometimes, just a little, not very much, but just a little, in his sufferings, and it helps us, to go on the way,

God has ordained, as we realize, it is enough, for the disciple, that he be, as his Lord, and, our great concern, is, that we may, follow him, in his sufferings, in a right spirit, the flesh, dislikes the way, but we desire grace, to superabound, over all that one is, by nature, and to, be able to, say, let but my, fainting heart, be blessed, with thy sweet spirit, for its guest, O God, to thee, I leave the rest, thy will be done, then, shall we know, if we follow on, to know the Lord, Amen.

Amen. God will, in fair meeting, an address, on Wednesday, the funeral, of the night, of John Burris, will be on Thursday, in service, in February, chapter 2, in number 771, Jude, Edwin, sir, 3, 37, to, to know my, Jesus crucified, by far, several, old things, and I, all earth, too, I have never, and I, hadn't met, neither, how, may God, CHOIR SINGS

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Amen. Amen.

[51 : 06] Amen. Amen.

Amen. Amen.

Amen. Amen.

Amen. May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God the Father, the communion of the Holy Spirit be upon us and all who love the truth everywhere. Amen. And Amen.

Amen. I would just say that I hope this afternoon, if the Lord will help me, there will be a memorial service for our friend, Mrs. John Burgess.

[55 : 26] Amen. Amen.