

LOVE THAT PASSES KNOWLEDGE

LESSON TWO

Knowledge itself is not a bad thing. The Word of God calls us to get knowledge.

Hosea 4:6

Joshua 1:8

Ephesians 1:15-20

The Word declares that Jesus walked in the Spirit of knowledge. Isaiah 11:1-5

The real trouble with knowledge began in the Garden of Eden. Man had plenty of knowledge and intelligence before the fall. He named everything and communicated with God on a regular basis. Genesis 2:20

Adam and Eve had free reign to everything in the garden except one tree. The tree's name was Knowledge. That's amazing considering that Adam had to be much smarter than any man living today. This wasn't just any kind of tree of knowledge. It was the knowledge of good and evil. Genesis 2:9

God proclaimed that man would die if he ate of this tree. The word "die" here means to be separated from God. Genesis 2:17

Let's look at the conversation between the serpent and Eve. The serpent spoke three things that tempted the woman.

Genesis 3:1-5

1) Ye shall not surely die. This was a direct contradiction to what God had said. It was a lie. Vs. 4

2) Then your eyes shall be opened. Vs.

5

This was the truth. The natural eyes of man were opened - closing the eyes of the spirit. Vs. 7

3) Ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil. Vs. 5

This, too, was true, causing man to be put out of the garden.

Genesis 3:22-24

Being as a little god comes from the fall. It is not a good thing; it brings the judgment of God. As we judge, God allows the same judgments to come on us.

Psalms 82:1

Matthew 7:1-

5

God put man out of the garden because he didn't want him to live in the condition that came upon him by eating of knowledge of good and evil. Let's look and see the fruit of this tree in man's life. Many call this the tree of religion, bringing a counterfeit to true Christianity or a true walk with God. It is a tree, that when eaten, becomes the god of man causing man to act as a little god. Knowledge, a god to man, rather than God telling man how to think and what to do, rather than man being led by the Spirit of God. Let's look and see how this fall came about.

Lust or covetousness is involved from the beginning - the drawing out of the flesh rather than the Spirit. Lust and covetousness is not the right tree.

Genesis 3:6

When their eyes were opened, they knew something. Knowledge of good and evil - knowledge that they were naked.

Genesis 3:7

Before, they ate of this tree and it didn't bother them.

Genesis 2:25

Now, because of knowledge that awakened the flesh or brought the flesh to the surface, men judged themselves. For the first time, man judged himself after the flesh, and then he tried to cover his sin. Judgment and trying to cover up is not the right tree.

Genesis 3:7

Then the voice of God comes walking through the garden, and man runs and hides in fear from God's Presence. This is the first time that man experiences fear. Fear is not the right tree.

Genesis 3:8-10

When God asked Adam how he had this flesh knowledge, the knowledge of good and evil, he blamed the woman, then the woman blamed the serpent. Not willing to take responsibility and blaming others for our sins, is not the right tree.

Let's take a look at the fruit line-up of this tree called Knowledge of good and evil.

- 1. Covetousness - desire for positions that don't belong to us. Ye shall be as gods.**
- 2. Lust - appeals and draws the flesh.**
- 3. Knowledge about the flesh.**
- 4. Judgment of the flesh.**
- 5. Covering up, or self-provision of the flesh.**
- 6. Fear - causing our flesh to believe that it can hide from God.**
- 7. Blame others for sin and troubles. No wonder God put man out of the garden. Genesis 3:22-24**

