## The Power of Knowledge

### Definition of knowledge -

facts, information, and skills acquired by a person through experience or education; the theoretical or practical understanding of a subject.
awareness or familiarity gained by experience of a fact or situation.

### <u>Isaiah 54:14-17</u> - NKJV

<sup>14</sup> In righteousness you shall be established; You shall be far from oppression, for you shall not fear; And from terror, for it shall not come near you.

<sup>15</sup> Indeed they shall surely assemble, *but* not because of Me. Whoever assembles against you shall fall for your sake.

<sup>16</sup> "Behold, <u>I have created the blacksmith</u> Who blows the coals in the fire, Who brings forth an instrument (**weapon**) for his work; And <u>I have created</u> <u>the spoiler to destroy</u>. (**destroyer to work havoc**)

<sup>17</sup> No weapon formed against you shall prosper, And every tongue which rises against (accuses) you in judgment You shall condemn. This *is* the heritage of the servants of the LORD, And their righteousness (vindication) *is* from Me," Says the LORD.

**Sculpting –** The <u>art or practice of shaping</u> figures or designs in the round or in relief, as by chiseling marble, modeling clay, or casting in metal.

Sculptures take a long time to create. A sculptor has to put hundreds or even thousands of hours into their work before it is *'finished.'* In some cases, the pieces of art are known as <u>the sculptor's 'life's work</u>.'

# Example: Michelangelo's David took two entire years to finish.

- The sculpture started as an <u>enormous block of marble</u>
- Still weighs over 500 lbs. after being figured.
- This sculpture is known around the world as *Michelangelo's masterpiece*.

### <mark>Genesis 2:7</mark> - NKJV

<sup>7</sup> And the Lord <u>God formed man</u> of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being.

Contrary to the truth of the matter, some Christians assume that God spoke man into existence, but in reality,

- He actually formed every one of us out of 'the dust of the ground'
- He personally breathed into us 'the breath of life.'
- God took the time to make us
- He put His signature on all of us
- We're God's masterpiece.

The thing that takes the most of your time <u>will be your signature</u>. If you are going to do a job, then <u>do it right!</u>

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The devil is very smart and will use whatever he can to turn our attention away from God - - -

- But with God on our side - -
- "nothing formed against us shall prosper."

### Nothing has ever been successful for him!!!!

### When we understand who and what we are; there is no defeat!

### <u>1 Peter 2:9-10</u> - NKJV

<sup>9</sup>But you *are* a <u>chosen</u> generation, a <u>royal</u> priesthood, a <u>holy</u> nation, His own <u>special</u> people, that <u>you may proclaim</u> the praises of Him <u>who called</u> <u>you out of darkness</u> into His marvelous light;

<sup>10</sup> who once *were* not a people but *are* now <u>the people of God</u>, who had not obtained mercy but now have <u>obtained mercy</u>.

### Why could Goliath never have defeated David?

Was is that Goliath lacked strong weaponry, had undeveloped skills, or a lack of knowledge?

**No!** Goliath could have <u>never defeated David</u>, because **God had anointed David to be king**, and <u>he wasn't king yet</u>!

When God says "let us go to the other side;" He means just that. <u>There is no storm in the middle that will sink us</u>, because <u>Jesus said</u> <u>we are</u> going to the other side.

# We Cannot Lose!

# All of Satan's planning, efforts, time and energy are for nothing!

<u>Micah 7:8</u> – NKJV - Israel's Confession and Comfort

<sup>8</sup> Do not rejoice over me, my enemy; When I fall, I will arise; When I sit in darkness, The Lord *will be* a light to me.

**Nehemiah 6:1-2** – NKJV - Conspiracy Against Nehemiah

**6** Now it happened when Sanballat, Tobiah, Geshem the Arab, and the rest of our enemies heard that I had rebuilt the wall, and *that* there were no breaks left in it (though at that time I had not hung the doors in the gates), <sup>2</sup> that Sanballat and Geshem sent to me, saying, "Come, let us meet together among the villages in the plain of Ono." But they thought to do me harm.

### Failure was not an option!

• Once you realize that <u>you cannot lose</u>, **you gain some power** in your punch!

### That realization will open more doors.

# <mark>John 4:35</mark> - CEV

<sup>35</sup> You may say that there are still four months until harvest time. But I tell you to look, and you will see that the fields are ripe and ready to harvest.

Four months until harvest? LOOK - the harvest is now!

- The harvest has never changed.
- We cannot lose our battles!
- Once the realization of the harvest came, their paradigm shifted.
- God brought revival to Samaria.

#### Knowledge is power!

The devil cannot stop the church; the devil cannot stop God, but when <u>he limits our knowledge</u>, he stops both of us....

#### <u>Ephesians 4:14</u> - NKJV

<sup>14</sup> that <u>we should no longer be children</u>, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting,

### 3 Things to Overwhelm Our Enemy:

## 1. Commitment

### 1 Samuel 17:29 - NKJV

<sup>29</sup> And David said, "What have I done now? *Is there* not a cause?"

We must understand the cause: our purpose is to win souls!

We must be committed to the cause. This requires: sacrifice, prayer, time, money, fasting, worship, and faith.

The cause of Christ must become our life!

### <mark>2. Time</mark>

Time is our friend; the longer we withstand, the more plans we wreck for the enemy.

### 3. Shamelessness

The devil wants us desperately to be ashamed of who we are in Christ, but when you know who you are and you aren't ashamed of it; you can't be stopped!

### 1 Samuel 14:6-9 - CEV

<sup>6</sup> Jonathan and the soldier who carried his weapons talked as they went toward the Philistine camp. "It's just the two of us against all those godless men," Jonathan said. "But the Lord can help a few soldiers win a battle just as easily as he can help a whole army. Maybe the Lord will help us win this battle."

<sup>7</sup> "Do whatever you want," the soldier answered. "I'll be right there with you."

<sup>8</sup> "This is what we will do," Jonathan said. "We will go across and let them see us. <sup>9</sup> If they agree to come down the hill and fight where we are, then we won't climb up to their camp.

God is on our side! We cannot lose! God wants you to be saved!

Question: "What does the Bible say about knowledge?"

Answer: The word *knowledge* in the Bible denotes <u>an understanding</u>, <u>a</u> <u>recognition</u>, or <u>an acknowledgment</u>.

To "know" something is to perceive it or to be aware of it.

Many times in Scripture, **knowledge carries the idea of a deeper appreciation** of something or a relationship with someone.

The Bible is clear that **the knowledge of God** is the most valuable **knowledge** a human being can possess.

But it is also clear that simply being aware of God's existence is not sufficient; the knowledge of God must encompass the deep appreciation for and relationship with Him.

I know that God wants you to have the Power of Knowledge this afternoon!

# CLOSE:

Questions? Can I make it? Does He really love me? Is this for real?

What do you know this morning?

- 1. God loves me!
- 2. I cannot deny what I feel in my heart right now!
- 3. I need God in my life today, desperately!
- 4. I am hungry!
- 5. The Holy Spirit is a gift!

There is nothing you can do to earn the right to have God living in your heart, but you don't have to. It is a gift, that He simply wants to just give you.

#### Acts 2:38-39 - NKJV

<sup>38</sup> Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

<sup>39</sup> For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call."

What must I do to take advantage of this great opportunity?

- 1. Repent.
- 2. Except Jesus.
- 3. Infilling of the Holy Spirit.
- 4. Accepting the gift of God.

# GET PLUGGED IN - Knowledge is Power!

- 1. We know from Scripture that knowledge is a gift from God.
- 2. God gives the gift of knowledge out of His infinite store of knowledge.
- 3. Human knowledge, apart from God, is flawed.
- 4. For the Christian, knowledge implies a relationship.