Ministry of Reconciliation (MOR) Bible Teachings



April 2022

MOR-Bible, which is in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, peace to you and grace, from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ and MOR-Bible.

Almighty God in whom every heart is open unto, the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ and our Father. Father, you made the world and all things contained therein. For by you, Father, were all things created that are in heaven and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones or dominions, principalities, or powers. All things were created by you, Father, and for you, Father. You, Father, are before all things, and by you all things are held together. Thank you for giving us your clear and exact Word so we can know your Will for our life. In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, Amen.

In the <u>March 2022</u> teaching, we continued our tracking, tracing, and searching of the scriptures by reviewing the next nine usages (9) for the Greek word *epignosis* used for our English word **knowledge** and **acknowledgment** from 1 Timothy 2:4:

Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.

In this month's teaching, we will complete our tracking, tracing, and searching of the scriptures for the last ten (10) usages of the Greek word *epignosis* used for our English word **knowledge** and **acknowledgment** from 1 Timothy 2:4. We started this journey in January 2022. Please see MOR-Bible.com/PastArticles for links to these teachings.

The purpose of tracking, tracing, and searching of the scriptures daily is to let God's Word interpret itself with a clear and exact knowledge (*epignosis*); a knowledge that has a powerful influence on us the knower. In this way, we can make a distinction and come to a decision that God's Word is the truth! The sources for all Greek-English words are *The Critical Lexicon and Concordance to the English and Greek New Testament* (1975) and *Young's Analytical Concordance* to the Bible (1982).

The words **knowledge** and **acknowledgement** will be bolded throughout this teaching to emphasize these represent the Greek word *epignosis*.

We will review the last 10 occurrences of the 20 occurrences of *epignosis*; sixteen (16) times the Greek word *epignosis* was translated to **knowledge** and four (4) times it was translated to **acknowledgment**.

Let's continue review with the 11th usage of epignosis in 1 Timothy 2:4:

Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the **knowledge** [the Greek word epignosis] of the truth.

The Will of God our Father is for all people to be saved, to be made whole, to preserve and be safe from danger, loss, or destruction, and for all people to come to a clear and exact knowledge which has a powerful influence on the knower. This is *epignosis* and represents the full knowledge of the truth of His Word!

The 12th usage is documented in 2 Timothy 2:25:

In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves if God peradventure will give them repentance to the **acknowledging** [the Greek word epignosis] of the truth.

We, the born-again believers, in meekness and tenderness of spirit instruct those that oppose themselves of God. In this verse the word peradventure means "that not ever, least ever, lest at some time or other." The word repentance means "change of mind." When we acknowledge the clear and exact knowledge of the truth of God's Word, we change our minds to do God's Word! 2 Timothy 2:26 tells us what happens when those opposed to God's Word change their minds and acknowledge the truth of His Word!

And that they [those that oppose themselves against God] may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will.

This verse tells us how people who oppose God can heed the doctrine, reproof, and corrections of God's Word by acknowledging the truth of God's Word. They can then recover themselves out of the snare of the devil who has taken them captive at his will!

2 Timothy 3:7 represents usage 13 of epignosis:

Ever learning, and never able to come to the **knowledge** [the Greek word epignosis] of the truth.

Those that are lovers of their own selves (2 Timothy 3: 2) are *Ever learning, and never able to come* to a clear and exact knowledge of the truth of God's Word!

Usage 14 of epignosis is found in Titus 1:1:

Paul, a servant of God, and an apostle of Jesus Christ, according to the faith [believing] of God's elect, and the **acknowledging** [the Greek word epignosis] of the truth which is after godliness.

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Paul is a servant of God and an apostle (one that brings new light to his generation) of Jesus Christ, who is the humble one now glorified, according to the believing of God's elect (Titus 1:1). We, the believers, **acknowledge** the clear and exact **knowledge** of the truth of God's Word which is after godliness. Godliness is defined as our real, true, vital, and spiritual relationship with God our Father!

Philemon 1:6 has usage 15 of *epignosis*; verses 4-5 are provided for context, followed by verse 6.

I thank my God, making mention of thee always in my prayers,

hearing of thy love and faith [believing], which thou hast toward the Lord Jesus, and toward all saints.

That the communication of thy faith [believing] may become effectual [the Greek word energees which means energic or at work; active working] by the acknowledging [the Greek word epignosis] of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus.

We have full knowledge of every good thing which is in us in Christ Jesus, the now glorified one who was once humble, available to us as documented in God's Word.

The 16th usage of *epignosis* is documented in Hebrews 10: 26. For context, Hebrews 10:17-18 tells us:

And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more.

Now where remission of these [sins and iniquities] is, there is no more offering for sin.

The "remission" of sins is for the unsaved (Hebrews 10:10)! When you are saved or born-again, we are children of God born of His incorruptible seed which lives and abides forever (see 1 Peter 1:23). After we are born-again of God's spirit, any time we sin it is called broken "Fellowship" (see August 2017 teaching). At those times when we sin or break "Fellowship" with God our Father, we must confess our broken fellowship for God, our Father, to hear and act on our prayers. The Bible tells us that God is faithful and just to forgive us our broken fellowship and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:9). This is God's love! Our Father always goes exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think according to His power that works in us (Ephesians 3:20). What an aweinspiring and loving Father we have!

Now that we appreciate the remission of sins, we can better understand the 16th usage of *epignosis* is found in Hebrews 10:26:

For if we sin wilfully after that we have received [the Greek word lambano which means to receive into manifestation or evidence] the **knowledge** [the Greek word epignosis] of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins.

2 Peter 1:2 contains the 17th usage of epignosis:

Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the **knowledge** [the Greek word epignosis] of God, and of Jesus our Lord.

God's unmerited divine favor and peace is multiplied to His sons and daughters when they have a clear and exact knowledge of God our Father and of Jesus our Lord as documented in God's Word!

2 Peter 1:3 is usage number 18:

According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the **knowledge** [the Greek word epignosis] of him [God] that hath called us to glory and virtue.

God, by His divine power, has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness. This is our real, true, vital, and spiritual relationship with God our Father which we attain through a clear and exact knowledge of God our Father, as documented in His Word. God has called us to glory and virtue, which is His superiority excellence!

2 Peter 1: 8 contains the 19th usage of *epignosis*. We will include verses 5-7 for context, followed by verse 8.

And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith [believing] virtue; and to virtue knowledge;

And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness;

And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity.

For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the **knowledge** [the Greek word epignosis] of our Lord Jesus Christ.

This series of verses in 2 Peter 1 tells us that when we have this series of positive attributes, we will NOT be *barren*. . . in the *knowledge* of our Lord Jesus Christ. Let's lay out these attributes from 2 Peter 1: 5-7:

Diligence adds to faith (believing) virtue which leads to knowledge which leads to temperance which leads to patience which leads to godliness which leads to brotherly kindness which finally leads to charity (the love of God in the renewed mind in manifestation).

As a result of this series of attributes and having *epignosis* (a clear and exact knowledge (a knowledge that has a powerful influence on the knower of our Lord Jesus Christ), you shall absolutely be neither barren nor unfruitful. Throughout the New Testament, the phrase *Lord Jesus Christ* is translated as master (Lord), the humbled one (Jesus), now glorified one (Christ). Amazing! When you take the time to study and understand God's Word AND when the scriptures are opened to us, our hearts burn within, and our eyes are opened! Is not God's Word rich in meaning? Bless the Lord, oh my soul!

The 20th usage of *epignosis* is found in 2 Peter 2:20. Let us read 2 Peter 2:1-2 and 18-19 for context, followed by verse 20:

But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction.

And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of.

For when they speak great swelling words of vanity, they allure through the lusts of the flesh, through much wantonness, those that were clean escaped from them who live in error.

While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage.

For if after they [those that were clean] have escaped the pollutions [defilement] of the world through the **knowledge** [the Greek word epignosis] of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning.

2 Peter 2:21 provides us the consequence for becoming *entangled* in verse 20.

For it had been better for them not to have **known** the way of righteousness, than, after they have **known** it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them.

God's Word says if those that were clean have escaped the pollutions or defilement of the world through the clear and exact knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and they are again entangled with those who live in error (verse 18) or the servants of corruption (verse 19), they will be overcome with the pollutions or defilement of the world. The word *overcome* (verse 20) means "to be inferior, to be subdued and vanquished; hence, enslaved." Once you have knowledge (*epignosis*) of righteousness and become entangled with those who live in error or the servants of corruption, you are *overcome*.

In the January through March 2022 teachings, we examined 1 Timothy 2:4:

Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the **knowledge** [Greek word epignosis] of the truth.

We now have a clear and exact knowledge of *epignosis* or the English words **knowledge** and **acknowledgment**. We have searched, traced, and tracked in the scriptures the meaning of the Greek word *epignosis* used for the English words **knowledge** and **acknowledgment**.

There are 20 occurrences of the Greek word *epignosis*. Sixteen (16) times the Greek word *epignosis* translated **knowledge** and four times it translated to **acknowledgment** out of the 20 occurrences. The Greek word *epignosis* means "a clear and exact knowledge; a knowledge that has a powerful influence on us the knower; full knowledge."

With this understanding of *epignosis*, we can worship God in godliness which is our real, true, vital, and spiritual relationship with God our Father. Godliness is profitable to all things because it has the promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come (see 1 Timothy 4:8). Now we must go beyond tracing and tracking. We must rightly divide the scriptures, make a distinction, and come to a decision daily that we have received a clear and exact knowledge (*epignosis* or a knowledge that has a powerful influence on us the knower) of God's Word!

It was thrilling and exhilarating to read in God's Word what He wants us to have a clear and exact knowledge of (a knowledge that has a powerful influence on us the knower). We are reminded that God has magnified His Word above all His name. Blessed be the

God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ!

Father, thank you for opening your Word up to us who diligently seek to know your Will for our life. Thank you for giving us a clear and exact knowledge of your Word so that we can walk worthy of our calling by you in Christ. Father, thank you for giving us all things that pertain to life and godliness through the knowledge of you, Father, who has called us to glory and virtue, which is your superiority excellence. In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, Amen.

In next month's teaching, we will perform a search of the scriptures for the Greek word *aleethia* translated to the English word **truth** from 1 Timothy 2:4.

Have a Blessed Easter! Bless your hearts. You are the best! We love you.

In the Lord,

Ministry of Reconciliation
Son of God through Jesus Christ
Ambassador for Christ