

# Christian Knowledge

## I. Digging into knowledge

### A. The definition of knowledge

2 Peter 1:3 From this passage, how do you think the Bible defines knowledge as distinct from theory?

—oOo—

Knowledge is awareness that fire will burn you;  
wisdom is remembering the blister.

Knowledge comes, but wisdom lingers – A .Lord Tennyson

—oOo---

### B. The relationship of knowledge to wisdom

1. Philippians 1:9-11 According to this passage, what do you suppose is the relationship between knowledge and wisdom?
2. Ecclesiastes 1:16-17 How does this passage distinguish between knowledge and wisdom? (Hint: the Hebrew word for wisdom comes from their word for skill)

## II. Knowledge as a complication

### A. Knowledge and personal experience

1. Genesis 3:5 How is knowledge connected with the worst of all sins?
2. Ecclesiastes 1:18 Where is the complication in this situation?
3. 1 Corinthians 8:1-3 What is the problem with knowledge when it is used out of the context of other important things in life?

—oOo—

No one is so dumb as he who knows all of the facts of life  
but none of the paradoxes. – D Herold

Perhaps the greatest tragedy of man is that  
his knowledge increases so much faster than his wisdom.

Knowledge humbles the great man,  
astonishes the common man, and puffs up the little man.

—oOo---

### B. Knowledge and our relationship to others

1. Malachi 2:7-9 What is one of the primary duties of religious leaders when it comes to knowledge and what happens when leaders fail in this obligation?
2. Hosea 4:6 What is the consequence to others if we avoiding

or reject appropriate knowledge?

3. Luke 11:52 What is the crime in withholding knowledge from others who have a right to that knowledge?

## III. Knowledge as a blessing

### A. Knowledge as a gift from God

1. Luke 1:76-77 How is it possible to be directed to the proper knowledge that informs our understanding and use of all knowledge that we can gather?
2. Ephesians 3:16-19 What ensures that we will recognize the right kind and use of knowledge?

### B. Knowledge as a goal of faith

1. Philippians 3:8 How important is it to seek the godly knowledge that leads to true blessing?
2. Colossians 2:2-5 What is the goal that faith moves us to strive toward when it comes to the use of knowledge?

### C. Knowledge as part of the Christian identity

1. Proverbs 18:15 What does this say about the person who has the desire to pursue knowledge?
2. Romans 11:33 What are the limits to how much we can know?
3. Romans 15:14 What level of competence is possible when it comes to working with what we've got when it comes to knowledge?

### D. Knowledge as a responsibility of faith

1. 2 Peter 3:17-18 What does this warning say about the need to identify and to protect godly knowledge?
2. 2 Peter 1:5-9 How does knowledge fit in when it comes to the lives that we are called to live in Christ?
3. 2 Corinthians 8:7-9 How are we privileged to make use of the knowledge we have gained as we serve Christ?

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He who knows and knows not he knows – he is asleep; wake him.  
He who knows not, and knows not he knows not – he is a fool; shun him.  
He who knows not and knows he knows not – he is a child; teach him.  
He who knows and knows he knows – he is wise; follow him.

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