# **Resurvection Life of Jesus Church** DO YOU PERSONALLY KNOW GOD? RLJ-1267 JOHN S. TORELL DECEMBER 5, 2010 PART 1: GOD IS MORE THAN A SAVIOR

Have you ever stopped to think what God is like? In preaching and teaching we have learned that God is love, He sent His only begotten son Jesus to die for our sins, He is a forgiving, but He is also a God of judgment.

Is it possible to probe deeper and find out personal things about God? Not long ago I was awakened and thoughts about God came into my mind and then the Holy Spirit began to reveal things to me that I want to share with you.

#### MADE IN THE IMAGE OF GOD

We are made in the image of God. Genesis 1:26-27

This does not mean that God made us into "gods;" instead, man was made a living soul. **Genesis 2:4-7** 

A human has been created with a soul that is conscious. We are aware that we exist and have been given five senses (sight, hearing, smell, touch and taste) by which we can retrieve information about our surroundings.

Man is aware of God while animals and all other living things do not have this capacity. Each species on this earth has been programmed, so for example, a mosquito, bird and cat are all locked into their respective programs and cannot break out.

The human body has been programmed by God to operate automatically without a person having to tend to its various functions but the soul has the attributes of God. **Psalms 139:13-18** 

God has given man the capacity to know Him and be able to communicate with Him; no other earthly species has that capacity.

## **GOD IS CARING**

God in his full glory could not enter the creation and fellowship with Abraham, but God the Son (Jesus) could do so. Jesus and two angels stopped by the camp where His friend Abraham dwelt on their way to destroy Sodom and Gomorrah. **John 8:54-58** 

It was in the middle of the day, too hot to work and Abraham was sitting at the opening of his tent. He immediately recognized that these three beings in the form of men were of a different spiritual dimension. He recognized that Jesus was not a man but the Lord. **Genesis 18:1-4** 

Abraham and Sarah lived very primitively as nomads but Jesus accepted the offer of having a simple meal with a man He loved. **verses 5-8** 

The King of kings and Lord of lords took time to let Abraham butcher a calf, fry the meat and for Sarah to to bake some bread. Jesus let Abraham and Sarah prepare the "best they had" and give it to him. He could have called in holy angels, set up an air conditioned tent and on a grill cooked the best meal they ever could have had.

Jesus knew that giving is important and received what Abraham and Sarah had with love. Then Jesus told Abraham the good news that Sarah would soon be pregnant. **verses 9-10** 

They found it hard to believe since Abraham was 99 years old at this time with Sarah in her 90's. Jesus did not rip into them and scold them for their unbelief; instead, He continued to speak with them assured them that Sarah would have a son. **verses 11-15** 

### GOD IS CONSIDERATE

God is not obligated to explain anything to man but Jesus showed that He wanted to communicate with Abraham and to let him know what was going to happen. **Genesis 18:16-17** 

It is in the next verses that Jesus gives us the reasoning for telling Abraham what was going to happen to Sodom and Gomorrah; it was Abraham's faith in God and his willingness to do the will of God. **verses 18-22; Romans 4:1-3** 

Jesus knew that that Abraham would intercede for the people in Sodom and Gomorrah and it did not bother Him. Abraham realized that Jesus was a fair judge and appealed to Him as the Judge of the Earth. **verses 23-25** 

Abraham had a deep respect for Jesus but at the same time he was not afraid to continue to intercede. **verses 26-33** 

Some 1,300 years later God spoke to the prophet Isaiah that Abraham was God's friend and was confirmed again by James. **Isaiah 41:8; James 2:23** 

#### JESUS IS MORE THAN SAVIOUR

Many Christians do not grasp that Jesus is God and that Jesus and the Father are one. The twelve apostles had been with Jesus for some three years and had come to believe that He was the Messiah and it was in desperation one day that Thomas told Jesus to show them the Father and that would settle all their faith issues. Jesus told Thomas that if he had seen Jesus, Thomas had also seen the Father. **John 14:1-12** 

God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit, the triune God, wants to save you from your sins, but also be your friend. Listen to the words of Jesus as He spoke to his disciples. **John 15:9-17** 

This friendship is built upon salvation by faith in Jesus and obedience to His commands. Jesus cannot be your friend if you hate other Christians. We have to love one another. **1 John 3:14-24** 

#### SUMMARY

God has reconciled mankind to himself. 2 Corinthians 5:17-21

But God also wants to be our friend. He wants His children to come and share our burdens, to tell Him that we love Him and that He is our Father.

God is a caring God that wants to share Himself and walk with us on a daily basis just like He did with Adam and Eve before they rejected God. **Genesis 3:8** 

Are you a friend of God? Do you fellowship with him on a daily basis or do you talk to him only when you have a need or are in trouble?

#### God is in charge of salvation, but man is in charge of the friendship! Revelation 3:20

# Remember, it's not so important how you begin your life after salvation, but how you finish it!

Have you made plans on how to finish your life or are you just drifting?

#### DO YOU HAVE AN EAR TO HEAR WITH?