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Knowing With The Mind or With The Spirit

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Just the other day, a well-known pastor had shared with me that a member in his church had told him that <u>he knew in his heart that the Lord had healed him</u> during one of our miracle meetings, although medical science said that he was still sick. A few days had past and the same member came back and said that the healing had manifested, as the cancer tumor, big as a baseball, had shriveled up and died.

I then thought about the many Christians who also know that they are healed by Jesus' stripes, but are still unable to receive the healing that the Lord has bought for them with his precious blood on the cross of Calvary.

What is the difference?

One group knows by the spirit and the other group knows by their minds.

When Jesus walked the earth and ministered to the house of Israel, the Pharisees and the Sadducees knew a lot about God through the Torah and the prophets. Yet, they failed to recognize Messiah when he came, although he was working miracles that could not be explained by human reasoning.

They knew God in theory--with their minds, but not personally--in their hearts.

The knowing that we need in order to receive from God and serve God, is a knowing that is of the heart and not just of the mind.

Jesus said in John 8:32, "Ye shall know the Truth and the Truth shall make you free." Notice that it does not say ye shall know about the truth, but ye shall know the Truth.

He also said in John 14:6, "I am the way and the Truth and the Life, no man comes to the Father but by me."

This explains why so many Christians fail to receive all the blessings that the Lord has freely provided for all his children.

Knowledge of the Word and of the Spirit of God is a must in order to receive from God, <u>and that knowledge must be</u> revealed knowledge.

The Comforter, the Holy Spirit, is the one who Jesus said that the Father would send in his name (John 14:26), and the Comforter is the one that quickens the Word (2 Corinthians 3:6) and the one who will teach us all things about Jesus.

John said by the Spirit: "But the Anointing which you have received of Him abides in you, and you need not that any man teach you, but as the same Anointing teaches you of all things and is Truth, and is no lie, and even as He has taught you, you shall abide in Him." (1 John 2:27)

The sons of Sceva knew about the casting out of devils in the name of Jesus, but <u>Paul knew Jesus</u> and therefore could cast out devil in his name (Acts 19:14). The evil spirit spoke to them saying: "Jesus I know, and Paul I know, but who are you?"

The sons of Sceva got into deep trouble and were challenged by the devil, while Paul got the devil into trouble through his authority in the name of Jesus.

The Lord wants us to know Him, not only with our minds, but also with our hearts, so that we can continue to do his works (John 14:12-14), and to continue to build his Kingdom until he returns for his sanctified bride.

-Roger Wågsjö