

1Ti 1:15 One Thing Everybody Ought To Know

"ONE THING EVERYBODY OUGHT TO KNOW"

I TIMOTHY 1:15

INTRODUCTION

1. We are living in an age when knowledge is literally exploding. We have more knowledge at our fingertips than ever before in the history of mankind.

-Between 6,000 and 7,000 scientific articles are written everyday.

-Scientific and technical information now increases 13% per year, which means it doubles every 5 years.
2. But the rate is soon going to jump to perhaps 40% per year because of new, more powerful information systems and an increasing population of scientists. That means that data will double every 20 months.[1]
3. I was stunned reading recently about how many things are printed in the United States every day. Did you know that every second 3,000 pages of material are printed in the United States? Think about that. Every second 3,000 pages. One thousand books are published every day.
4. Did you know that if you took all of the knowledge from the time of recorded history to 1845 and let it equate an inch; then from 1845 to 1945 it would equal 3"; but from 1945 to the present it would be longer than the Washington Monument. That is how many facts we are learning. That is how knowledge is increasing, pulling in on us like a tidal wave.
5. One thing all of this knowledge has taught us, however, is, that nobody can know everything. A census taker knocked on the door of an old backwoods shack up in West Virginia. An old timer came to the door and asked the man what he wanted.
 - A. "The President has sent us across the country to find out exactly how many people live in the United States" the man said.
 - B. The backwoodsman said, "Well I'm sorry you came all the way out here to ask me because I ain't got the faintest idea."
6. Well there is much that we cannot know, but there is one thing that everybody ought to know, that is "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners".
7. Now first of all this is a reliable statement. Paul says "This is a faithful saying". Notice, it's not that it was a faithful saying, it is a faithful saying. It is authentic. It is up-to-date. It is always true.

- A. You know today's scientific truth will be tomorrow's old fashion, out-dated relic.
 - B. But that is not true of the Word of God. Every statement from the lips of our God is always reliable and timeless.
8. Paul wants us to know that this is not a figment of his imagination. It is not some fancy tale. Peter said in **II Peter 1:16**; "For we did not follow cunningly devised fables when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of His majesty."
9. But it is also a valuable statement. It is a worthy statement. It is a commendable statement. It is worth your attention. It is worth your allegiance. It is a statement that is as worthy today as it was yesterday and will be as worthy tomorrow as it is today.
10. It is also an acceptable statement, for it is "worthy of all acceptance". This is a statement for everyone in every time at every place. You have here the entire Scripture in a sentence.
- A. All of the Bible is meant to convey this one truth that "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners".
 - B. That single, simple sentence is pregnant with meaning and literally bursting with wonderful truth.

I. The Proof That Jesus Came To Save

1. The first part of this statement that is worthy of you hearing and believing is this, "Christ Jesus came". Now, how do we know that there really was a man who came, who walked the face of this earth by the name of Jesus Christ?
- A. Historical Proof**
1. Well first of all we have 27 books of the New Testament; and speaking in a strictly secular sense, the Bible is a history book. It is one of the most valuable historical pieces that have ever been written. But it's not just ordinary history. This history is about His-Story.
2. But even if we did not have these books of the New Testament, we would know that there was a man by the name of Jesus Christ who lived 2,000 years ago. Secular historians all the way back to the time of Jesus Himself give us accounts of this man named Jesus.
3. Cornelius Tacitus, a Roman historian who was born 20 years after the death of Jesus, speaks about a Christ who was put to death by Pontius Pilate of Judea.
- A. Josephus, a Jewish historian who was born about the time that Christ died, speaks about a man named Jesus who he called a "wise man...a doer of wonderful

works...{who} was the Christ whom Pilate condemned to the cross".[2]

4. .Now there are many other secular historians who refer to this historical figure named Jesus, though one of the recent editions of the Encyclopedia Britannica uses 20,000 words in it's article on Jesus Christ; an article that takes up more space than was given to Aristotle, Cicero, Alexander, Julius Caesar, Buddha, Confucius, Mohammed or Napoleon Bonaparte.[3]
5. There is more proof of the existence of Jesus Christ than there is of the existence of Julius Caesar.
6. But notice the two names, Christ Jesus. Jesus was his domestic name. Many people do not realize that Jesus was a common name 2,000 years ago, much like the name John or Charles or William is today. But you know the Lord Jesus had a was of turning the common into the uncommon. Of turning the natural into the supernatural.
7. He was born in a common city, but His birth turned Bethlehem into a city of glory. He was crucified on a common cross, but His death turned the cross into a symbol of grace. He was given a common name, but His life turned it into a name of greatness.
8. But His other name, Christ, is His divine name. The name Christ literally means "anointed one". You see, He had to have two names because He had two natures. Jesus was His human name, Christ was His heavenly name. Jesus refers to His humanity, Christ refers to His deity.
 - A. He was Jesus because He was the Son of Man, He was Christ because He was the Son of God.
 - B. Jesus referred to His human identity, Christ referred to His heavenly mission.
9. God wanted to save Man, but He for Him to properly relate to man He could not do it just as God. He had to take on a human body and become a man to die for Man because only a man could die for Man. But He had to be the God Man in order to die for all Man, if He had just been another man He could have only died for one man.
 - A. So He came and lived and died as the God Man.
 - B. He lived a sinless life so he could be the perfect substitute for the sinner.
10. There is no reputable historian who denies the historicity of the person of Jesus Christ. One may deny His identity as deity, you cannot deny His reality.

B. Heavenly Proof

1. Another reason we know that Jesus came is because the Bible tells us He came. In the Old Testament alone there are over 300 prophecies that have been fulfilled in the person of Jesus Christ.

2. But beyond that, four books in the New Testament are devoted strictly to the birth, the life, the death and the resurrection of this man called Jesus Christ. Some of the manuscript documentation which support this New Testament go all the way back to the first century A.D.

C. Human Proof

1. Every day, when we simply write down a date, it is a subtle reminder of the person of Jesus Christ. Our entire dating system revolves around this Man of Galilee.
2. We live in 1998 A.D. Those two letters come from the Latin words "Anno Domini", which literally means "in the year of our Lord". B.C. means "Before Christ".
3. But beyond that, the reality of the person of Jesus Christ can be found in the lives and souls of multiplied millions of people around the world because of the way He has effected and influenced people to live.
 - A. Beyond what I've just told you, there is the subjective evidence of faith. If you asked millions how they know He's real, they'll answer "He's real within my heart."
4. I want to ask you a question and I want you to answer it for me in your heart, "Is Jesus Christ real to you?".
5. Without question, Jesus Christ came. But much of the world thinks that Jesus was just another regular person. They believe that He may have been a great teacher, a great philosopher, a great moralist, a great man; but He was just another person.
6. To others, He was just another prophet. The Moslem teaches that. The Mormon teaches that. The Jehovah's Witness teaches that.
7. To others still, He is just another phony. There are those who look upon Jesus the way they look upon some TV evangelist, as just another religious charlatan who came trying to get up a following. Another cultic leader who wanted his name etched in the history books.
8. Well I'll tell what the big deal is about the Lord Jesus Christ. There are at least five things that separate Jesus from any other person or prophet or phony who ever lived.

First of all, His virgin birth.
Secondly, His virtuous life.
Thirdly, His vicarious death.
Fourthly, His victorious resurrection, and
Fifthly, His visible return.

9. I tell you that the Lord Jesus Christ was born like nobody else was born, lived like nobody has lived, died like nobody else has died, was raised from the dead as no one else has been raised from the dead, and one day is going to return and rule and gather his people to him in heaven.
- A. I believe without question the greatest statement ever uttered in all of the world that every person had best, for his own eternal good, investigate and decide upon, are these words "Christ Jesus came".

I. The Proof That Jesus Christ Came

II. The Problem That Jesus Came To Solve

1. Paul goes on to tell us "Christ Jesus came into the world to save". That is exactly what the Lord Jesus Himself said. "For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost" (**Luke 19:10**). Jesus came into this world specifically to save sinners.
2. Now just think about that statement. Jesus' coming reveals two important truths to you and me. Number one, we're sinners; and number two, we need to be saved.
- A. If we were not sinners we would not need to be saved; and if we did not need to be saved, Jesus would never have come.
3. Do you understand that the only reason Jesus came was to save you and take you to heaven. He had not come to build an empire. He had come to become a part of the "rich and famous". He did not come to raise money. More books have been written about Him than any other figure in human history. Yet He never even wrote one page.
4. But the reason why He came, the reason why He was sent, was to save sinners.
- A. If our problem had been knowledge, God would have sent a teacher.
- B. If our problem had been technology, God would have sent a scientist.
- C. If our problem had been money, God would have sent a philanthropist.
- D. If our problem had been peace, God would have sent a diplomat.
- E. If our problem had been health, God would have sent a doctor.
- F. But our problem was sin and God sent us a Savior.
5. He came to save and He brought the good news of salvation made possible. (Eph. 1:13) "In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation:..."
- A. But we need to, as the wonderful songs says ...
- waft it on the rolling tide - Jesus saves, Jesus saves.
Tell to sinners far and wide - Jesus saves, Jesus saves.
6. Jesus could say, as in John, "I am the WAY," so he can to you and me show us the way to heaven.

- A. Jesus could say, "I am the TRUTH," so we can trust him to tell us the truth, He is the Truth.
 - B. Jesus could say, "I am the LIFE," so He can lead us to life, He is the Life.
 - C. He is all that we need and everything we need to be saved.
7. A missionary visited a small boy one time and told him how Jesus died to save sinners. A few days later he came back into that village and noticed a change in that boy's countenance. He said, "What happened to you son?"
- A. He said, "Well, Sir, I always knew Jesus talked about God, heaven, and salvation, but I didn't know until a few days ago that Jesus was enough".
 - B. Get it down and get it plain, Christ Jesus came to save.

III. The People Jesus Came To Save

1. Listen to the saying again, "Christ Jesus came to save sinners". That is the only kind of people that Jesus will bother to save. That is the only kind of people who can be saved, sinners.
 - A. Jesus Himself said, "Those who are well do not need a physician but those who are sick. I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance." **(Luke 5:31-32)**.
 - B. I've got some good news for you today, if you are a sinner, you are qualified for salvation.
2. Did you know that the only people eligible to go to heaven are sinners? Did you know that the only people Jesus came to save are sinners? Did you know that the only people that can be forgiven are sinners? Did you know that the only people who can receive eternal life are sinners?
 - A. "God commended His love toward us in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us." **(Romans 5:8)**
3. I get amused at these people who say "Well, I don't go to church because they're sinners down at the church". Well, I hope there are sinners in the church, because that's exactly where sinners belong.
 - A. Brother Marshall Keepble use to have a saying that went like this: Let me tell you something, the church is not a showcase for saints, it is a hospital for sinners.
4. Someone once said we ought to put up a sign over the front door of our church that says "For Sinners Only - No One Else Need Enter"
5. Has it ever occurred to you that if you tried to come to the Savior as a saint, He will reject

you as a sinner. But if you come to obey the Savior as a sinner, He will receive you as a saint.

6. If that prodigal son had waited until he had taken a bath, put on some clothes, got the pig smell off of his body, brushed the slop out of his hair before he came home, he would have never come home.
7. But when he came home, looked at his father and simply said one thing, "I have sinned", that's all the father needed to hear.
 - A. The father washed his feet, gave him a new robe and a new ring, a new pair of shoes and a feast to boot.
 - B. You see, he did not change so his father would accept him, the father accepted him like he was and the father changed him.
8. I read of a profound statement made by a prisoner in one of the Florida prison ministries. A prisoner said this and it sounds like it comes from the lips of a learned theologian. He said, "God does not changes us so He can love us, He loves us in order to change us."
9. There are two types of people that I have never met in my life. I have never met a mature person so good that he doesn't need forgiveness and I have never met a person so bad that he could not be saved.
10. There are some people who have this idea that before they are saved, they've got to clean up their life. They have it backwards. You don't clean up your life so you then come to the Lord to be saved. True, you've got to repent of sins!
 - A. But friends, you are saved by the blood of Christ and God forgives yours sins. But you've got to come to God just as you are, a sinner in need of salvation.
11. Several years ago in London, there was a beautiful lady, who entertained and sang at garden parties and other gathering of the wealthy noble class people.
 - A. She had a beautiful voice, and newspapers said she could sing like a mockingbird. She was the talk of the party. At the end of the parties everybody would go up to her to tell her how talented she was and how beautiful she was, how sweet and how lovely.
12. But a certain preacher in town, a man by the name of Caesar Milan went up to this young lady and said "Dear lady, I really don't mean to offend you, but I just want to tell you amidst all of the praise and adulation that you're receiving this evening, that unless you are Christian, and forgiven of your sins by Jesus Christ, you are just as lost in the sight of God as the most wicked harlot in London."
13. What that preacher said shot like an arrow, into the heart of that young woman. She went home that night, and was not able to get out of her mind what that preacher had said to

her. Early the next day she called on him and inquired more about what she must do. It is said she gave her life to Christ, and then going home, Charlotte Elliott wrote these words:

Just as I am, without one plea
But that Thy blood was shed for me.
And that Thou bidd'st me come to thee
Oh Lamb of God I come, I come.

14. And if you're going to come to Jesus to obey the gospel of your salvation (Eph. 1:13), that's how you'll have to come, as a sinner.
- A. 1st Timothy 1:15 says, "It is a faithful saying, worthy of all acceptation, Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners" -- sinners like you and me!
 - B. Will you in repentance and ready to confess the wonderful name of Jesus (Romans 14:11)
 - C. Will you come and obey Christ in baptism, and let God add you to those who are being saved. (Acts 2:47).

[1] John Naisbitt, "Megatrends", Pg. 16.

[2] Quoted by Josh McDowell, "Evidence That Demands a Verdict", Pg. 84-85.

[3] Ibid, Pg. 89.