

If you want to know GOD...

RECOGNIZE YOUR NEED.

"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23).

"There is none righteous, no, not one" (Romans 3:10).

"For the wages of sin is death" (Romans 6:23).

REPENT WITH GENUINE SORROW.

"Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish" (Luke 13:3).

"Therefore also now, saith the LORD, turn ye even to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning" (Joel 2:12).

RECEIVE JESUS CHRIST BY BELIEVING IN HIM.

"If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved" (Romans 10:9).

"Him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out" (John 6:37).

REJOICE IN CHRIST'S WORK IN YOUR HEART.

"And in that day thou shalt say, O LORD, I will praise thee: though thou wast angry with me, thine anger is turned away, and thou comfortedst me" (Isaiah 12:1).

REST IN THE LORD.

"Return unto thy rest, O my soul; for the LORD hath dealt bountifully with thee" (Psalm 116:7).

"If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed" (John 8:36).

"And ye shall find rest unto your souls" (Matthew 11:29).

For additional information or requests contact:

You will be judged by God's Word. Have you read it?

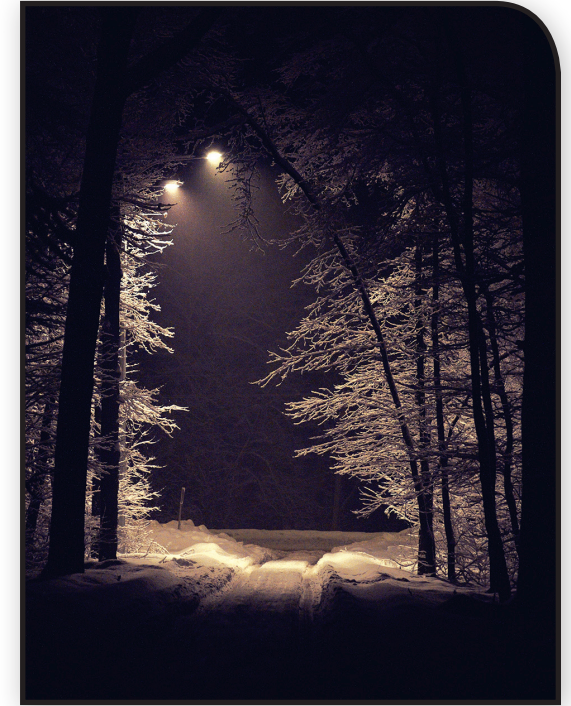
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JUST FOR YOU



Does the FUTURE concern you?

Do you ever worry about the future? If so, I cannot blame you. Especially if you don't know the God that I know.

Many celebrated this new year as a fresh start—a time to turn the page and begin anew. But considering recent global, political, and natural events, many look toward a new year with concern. Will it be a year of good progress? Or is calamity awaiting behind every unturned calendar page?

I don't know the answer to these questions any more than you do. But because I know God, I am not afraid of the future. Let me share some of the reasons.

He is my Lord. When I turned my life over to Him, I chose to always follow His will for my life and actions. With that decision made, many other decisions are made for me. Because I love Him, I will not do some things because they displease Him. I will strive to do things that please Him for the same reason.

My life is no longer my own; therefore, there are many things I do not need to worry about. It is now His job to care for me, and He has promised, "I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee" (Hebrews 13:5).

God sees my future and controls it.

He knows the future. I do not. God is not bound by time, as we are. God "inhabits eternity" (Isaiah 57:15) and can see the past, present, and future equally well. Through hundreds of Biblical prophecies—and their fulfilment—God proves His foreknowledge. Things happen as He predicts and plans.

God sees my future and controls it for my good and His glory. And I can rest in that.

He rules in the affairs of men. When the fate of nations seems to hinge on the decisions of a few men, it is easy to worry. Whose interest do they have in mind? Do they know all the facts? Will they cause millions to suffer because they make selfish or misinformed choices?

God allows people to make choices and to live with their consequences, but "The most High ruleth in the kingdom of men" (Daniel 4:17). God bends the decisions of powerful people to fulfill His ultimate will. Men may rule, but God is ultimately in control. Even their sinful choices can be used of God to further His purpose.

He loves me. God demonstrated His love for me—and everyone else—by giving His Son Jesus to die for my sins. "God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8).

Because He loves me, He will allow only those things that are good to come into my life. "We know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose" (Romans 8:28).

This does not mean He will not allow painful things in my life. In fact, He will certainly allow some hard experiences, for what loving father does not discipline his son? But I accept what He allows because I trust His heart toward me and know He loves me.

He is all-powerful. "With God nothing shall be impossible" (Luke 1:37). My God can do the impossible, working out problems that seem unworkable. I have seen Him do it before; He will do it again as I trust Him as my Lord and Guide.

*God guides my steps
toward a good end.*

He is the source of wisdom. When we reach the end of our wisdom and cannot tell which way to turn, even there, God has answers. "The LORD giveth wisdom: out of his mouth cometh knowledge and understanding" (Proverbs 2:6). And He wants to give me of that wisdom! "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not [without reproach]" (James 1:5).

No matter how bleak the future or difficult the predicament, my Lord wants me to trust Him. And when I trust Him, He is faithful to guide my steps toward a good end.

He knows and cares about me. It is a mystery how God can know and care for one individual among the billions now living. But His knowledge is boundless, and His abilities are unlimited. Nothing escapes His notice. Jesus said, "Are not five sparrows sold for two farthings, and not one of them is forgotten before God? But even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not therefore: ye are of more value than many sparrows" (Luke 12:6, 7).

God planned my existence, knew me before I knew Him, understands me better than I understand myself, and has plans for me that I cannot imagine.

Many things can make us anxious, but in the hands of such a God, who can fear? I have chosen the refuge of knowing and belonging to God, and the unknowns of life will not make me afraid. What about you?

*"What time I am afraid,
I will trust in thee"*
(Psalm 56:3).
