

There are two kinds of knowledge - requiring two minds

There is sense knowledge

This is knowledge we acquire through our five physical senses – sight, sound, smell, taste and touch – to which we then apply the reasoning ability of our brains. The world relentlessly pursues this kind of knowledge believing it to be the only kind of knowledge that exists. The world grades people on the extent of their sense knowledge and on the ability of their intelligence to process that knowledge.

None of us can know God through sense knowledge, although many try to:

1 Cor. 1:21 **For in the wisdom of God the world (people) by its wisdom (sense knowledge and brains) did not (and do not) know God ...**

Having perfect natural eyesight and hearing and a high I.Q. will contribute nothing to knowing God if we look to the natural faculties of sense knowledge and reason:

Matthew 13:13 **I (Jesus) speak to them in parables: because they seeing (with their natural eyes) do not see (with their spiritual eyes); and hearing (naturally) they do not hear (spiritually), neither do they understand (spiritual truth which is actually knowing God).**

Matthew 13:15 **For this people's hearts have grown dull, and their ears are hard of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears, and understand with their hearts and should be converted, and I should heal them (from the sickness, and death to God, of sin).**

We may be very religious and spend much time in the study of the Bible, mentally trying to understand the scriptures and apply them to our lives, but our knowledge of God can never begin or advance this way. All we will have is an accumulation of sense knowledge of the Bible and some inevitable pride. Many sincere born-again Christians are under the illusion that Christian growth comes this way. It does not.

Jesus speaking to the religious leaders of Israel (and sense knowledge people today):

John 5:37 **...You have neither heard His (The Father's) voice at any time...**

John 5:38 **And you do not have His word living in you...(in your hearts).**

John 5:39 **Search the scriptures; for in them you think you have eternal life: but they speak of (and reveal) Me (I am eternal life).**

John 5:40 **And you will not come to Me, that you might have (eternal) life.**

John 5:42 **But I know you, that you have not the love of God in you. (Me)**

They knew the scriptures – but only through sense knowledge and human reason – consequently they had never heard the Father’s voice speaking a scripture to them by His Spirit. Therefore the word of God was not in them, in their hearts. So neither the life of God nor the love of God was in them, which God communicates to people through living words. In other words Christ, humanity’s only Savior, was not in them.

Matt 11:25 **Jesus "O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, thank you for hiding the truth from those who think themselves so wise and clever (from their brains), and for revealing it to the childlike (to their hearts)".** NLT

Then there is revelation knowledge - God must reveal this to my heart

Matthew 16:17 **Jesus to Peter “Flesh and blood (people) have not revealed this to you but my Father who is in heaven (He has revealed it).**

John 3:27 **...A person can receive nothing except it be given him from heaven above.**

1 Cor 2:10 **God has revealed them (the knowledge of Him) to us by His Spirit;**

This is knowledge that God reveals to me. It is exclusively a gift from God. None of my natural human abilities, especially my brain, can increase in the slightest way my receiving revelation knowledge of God. Because it is only given to the heart, that is the spirit of a person.

Eph. 1:17 **That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ...may give unto you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him:**

Eph. 1:18 **The eyes of your hearts being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling...His inheritance in the saints,**

1 Cor. 2:14 **For the natural man (including the Christian seeking to know God through sense knowledge) cannot understand the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, neither can he know them for they are spiritually discerned (received and revealed exclusively to his heart by the Holy Spirit).**

Many Christians after being born-again of the Spirit, but not yet filled with and therefore controlled by the Holy Spirit, are taught to, and seek in vain, to know God better and to grow in Christ through a sense knowledge approach to the scriptures. This destroys any possibility of a real relationship with God; it is now only a sham.

Hosea 4:6 **My people are destroyed for lack of (revelation) knowledge.**

Everything God wants to give the new born Christian, who was born-again by God revealing to his heart the beginning of the knowledge of Jesus Christ, His gospel words on forgiveness of sins, comes only through further revealed knowledge:

II Peter 1:2 (Christians) **Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the (revealed) knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord,**

II Peter 1:3 **His divine power has given unto us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the (revealed) knowledge of Him...**

The Bible, the written word of God, also called “the Letter” in scripture, has no life changing power while the words remain on the page. Sense knowledge tries to bring them to life but to absolutely no avail. Only the Spirit of God can breathe life into the written word so that it becomes the living word which can then be grafted into and revealed to my heart. Jesus Christ is the living word. I am completely dependant on the Holy Spirit for all revelation knowledge of God.

II Cor. 3:6 **Who (God) also has made us able ministers of the new testament; not of the letter (or written word), but of the Spirit: for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life (to the written word - giving my heart understanding of it and imparting Christ’s nature).**

The knowledge of God is always revealed by the Holy Spirit through the living word of God (Jesus Christ) to a believer with a tender heart, that is, a hearing spirit.

Jer 24:7 **I will give them a heart (a spirit) to know Me, that I am the LORD...**

2 Co 3:17 **Now the Lord is the Spirit; where the Spirit...is, there is freedom.**

Sense and revelation knowledge require two totally different minds

1. **We have a natural, human mind or brain, the center of our human intelligence:**

The Bible refers to it as our fleshly mind: Col 2:18 ...**Puffed up by his fleshly mind**, In Today’s English Version it is called: Col 2:18 ...our **Human way of thinking**.

The Bible also calls it our carnal mind, that is, our human nature or natural mind. But because it deals only with sense knowledge and not the revealed knowledge of God it is referred to as God’s enemy, for when we live in it we are dead to God:

Rom 8:7 **Because the carnal mind is the enemy of God; for it is not subject to the rule of God, nor indeed can be.**

Rom 8:6 **For to be carnally minded is death (to God, no longer alive to Him)...**

The natural mind or brain is where all unbelievers take their decisions and sadly where most Christians, being carnal, do also. With respect to God this mind is futile:

Eph 4:17 **...You should no longer walk as the rest of the Gentiles walk, in the futility of their mind (of their brains that are incapable of knowing God),**

When we live in this mind Satan has access to us with his God opposing thoughts:

Matt 16:23 Jesus to Peter, "**Get behind Me, Satan...for you are not mindful of the things of God** (spiritually minded) **but the things of men** (naturally minded)."

2. We have a spiritual mind or heart, the center of our wisdom and knowledge of God

Eph 4:23 **Be** (daily) **renewed in the spirit of your mind** (or mind of your spirit),

God refers to our spirits as our hearts, not the organ in our chests. This is the only place, located in our abdomen, where God reveals Himself and wants us to think. As we live in this mind, making our choices there, we are alive to God and at peace:

Prov 20:27 **The spirit of a person is the lamp of the LORD** (where God makes Himself known), **searching all the inward parts of the belly.** KJV

Prov 23:7 **For as he thinks in his heart, so is he...**

Rom 8:6 **...To be spiritually minded** (thinking in the heart) **is life and peace.**

Only those fully submitted to God can live in this mind. Because it takes the power of the Holy Spirit to fully obey God and God gives the Holy Spirit to those willing to obey Him. The Holy Spirit is the mind of Christ bringing us all the good thoughts of God.

Ezek 36:27 **I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes** (My words) **and you will keep My judgments** (My words) **and do them.**

Rom 8:9 (To Christians) **But you do not live as your human nature** (your human mind or brain) **tells you to; instead, you live as the Spirit tells you to** (speaking to your spirit or heart) **if, in fact, God's Spirit lives in you...**

1 Cor 2:11 **No one knows the things** (thoughts) **of God except the Spirit of God.**

1 Cor 2:16 **But** (if we have the Holy Spirit in our spirit) **we have the mind of Christ.**

When we are born again we are given a new heart or spirit, a new "mind of our spirit" in addition to our brains. The voice of this new heart is our conscience which knows right from wrong. God wants our spirit to become fully occupied by His Spirit, so that He can think His thoughts in us which will become our thoughts. Many Christians still do almost all their primary thinking in their heads of doubt, not in their hearts of faith, and are carnal and dead to God. Other Christians flit back and forth from head (doubt) to heart (faith) and sadly likewise they're unable to receive anything from God.

Jam 1:7-8 **Let not that person suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; he is a double-minded person, unstable in all his ways.**

Jer 29:11 **I know the thoughts that I think toward you** (by My Spirit to your spirit, the mind of Christ) **says the LORD, thoughts of peace** (a total salvation from sin) **and not of evil, to give you an** (eternal) **future and a hope.**

