

THE 7 STEPS THAT LEAD TO HEAVEN

2 – Knowledge

How was Jesus great in the area of knowledge?

Jesus characteristically referred to the Scriptures by saying, “It is written,” or some other similar expression. By using God’s Word in this way, He:

1. Overcame the devil’s temptations (**see Matthew 4:1-11**).
2. Justified His action of driving out the traders from the Temple (**see Matthew 21:12,13**).
3. Announced His upcoming betrayal, desertion, and death (**see Matthew 26:24 and 26:31**).

In the same way, when confronted by religious leaders, Jesus resorted to what was written in the Word of God. For example:

4. When an expert in the law asked Him, “What must I do to receive eternal life?” Jesus replied, saying, “What does the law of Moses say? How do you read it?” The religious expert answered by quoting the Scriptures, and Jesus commended him for that. And in reply to his next question, Jesus told the story known as the Parable of the Good Samaritan (**Luke 10:25-37**).

5. When the Pharisees and teachers of religious law challenged Him about His disciples’ failure to observe the ancient, but unscriptural custom of washing their hands before eating, Jesus replied saying that they had put their own laws in the place of God’s law (**Mark 7:1-13**). Jesus then went on to teach the crowd a pivotal lesson about the real nature of purity and pollution (**Mark 7:14-23**).

6. When the Sadducees, who did not believe in the resurrection, asked Jesus about a woman who had married seven times, He replied saying that their mistake was their ignorance of the Scriptures and the power of God (**Mark 12:18-27**).

Zeal without the knowledge of the Word of God is misdirected zeal.

“Brethren, my heart’s desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they may be saved. For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge. For they being ignorant of God’s righteousness, and seeking to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted to the righteousness of God.” (Romans 10:1-3)

Recap:

Step 1: We enter the Kingdom of God by faith; then, we decide to do what is right.

Step 2: We study the Scriptures and gain knowledge.

The study continues on **Wednesday at 7.30pm** (also at 7am, 10am & 3pm)