

# And Joseph Knew His Brethren, but They Knew Not Him

by C.H. Spurgeon

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*God's perfect knowledge of us is based on His eternal plan and love, and He will manifest Himself to us despite our ignorance.*

**Scripture:** Psalm 139:1

**Topics:** "Knowledge Of God", "Relationship With Christ"

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## Description

C.H. Spurgeon emphasizes the profound knowledge that Jesus, our heavenly Joseph, has of us, which existed long before we recognized Him. He knew us in our sinful state, our struggles, and our despair, viewing us as beloved brethren despite our rebellion and ignorance. Spurgeon reflects on how our lack of understanding of Jesus led to sin and separation, yet reassures us that His knowledge of us is perfect and filled with love. He highlights the joy of knowing that Jesus will acknowledge us as His own and reveal Himself to us, contrasting our limited understanding with His infinite awareness. Ultimately, Spurgeon encourages a deeper pursuit of knowing Christ, who knows us completely.

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## Transcript

This morning our desires went forth for growth in our acquaintance with the Lord Jesus; it may be well to-night to consider a kindred topic, namely, our heavenly Joseph's knowledge of us. This was most blessedly perfect long before we had the slightest knowledge of Him. "His eyes beheld our substance, yet being imperfect, and in His book all our members were written, when as yet there was none of them." Before we had a being in the world we had a being in His heart. When we were enemies to Him, He knew us, our misery, our madness, and our wickedness. When we wept bitterly in despairing repentance, and viewed Him only as a judge and a ruler, He viewed us as His brethren well beloved, and His bowels yearned towards us.

He never mistook His chosen, but always beheld them as objects of His infinite affection. "The Lord knoweth them that are His," is as true of the prodigals who are feeding swine as of the children who sit at the table.

But, alas! we knew not our royal Brother, and out of this ignorance grew a host of sins. We withheld our hearts from Him, and allowed Him no entrance to our love. We mistrusted Him, and gave no credit to His words. We rebelled against Him, and paid Him no loving homage. The Sun of Righteousness shone forth,

and we could not see Him. Heaven came down to earth, and earth perceived it not. Let God be praised, those days are over with us; yet even now it is but little that we know of Jesus compared with what He knows of us.

We have but begun to study Him, but He knoweth us altogether. It is a blessed circumstance that the ignorance is not on His side, for then it would be a hopeless case for us. He will not say to us, "I never knew you," but He will confess our names in the day of His appearing, and meanwhile will manifest Himself to us as He doth not unto the world.

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