Year A #169

Destroyed for Lack of Knowledge

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Hello! This is Dorothy -

There is a various serious verse in **Hosea chapter 4** at the beginning of **verse 6 —**

6 My people- *that is every born-again believer* - **are destroyed for lack of knowledge . . .** Listen to that again: ***My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge***. "Oh," you say, "how crazy! There has never been a time when there has been so much teaching. Oh, we have every kind of a lecture; we have every kind of a seminar and it comes this way and either we act it out or we listen to it or we make notes on it and we put it away in another file." As my husband says, "The next thing comes down the evangelical pipeline!" But I want you to know, I can have an intellectual understanding of even truth, but I can lack being Spirit-taught. Spirit-taught. As a leader, we have a responsibility for any person that we speak to that we are Spirit-taught, that they might be Spirit-taught. We do not compromise, because we are ***being destroyed for lack of knowledge*** in His Spirit.

Jesus gave a lesson of faith, which literally takes us beyond sight. In **John 6:53,** He says -

53 . . . Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you. You say, "What does that mean?" He

was explaining the crucified life that Jesus Christ, who died upon the Cross, would one day have those who would gather in His Name and remember Him in His Name. As they remember Him, they literally understand the crucifixion and the price of which they are identified in the flesh of our Lord, and what it means to partake of that life- giving Blood, which was shed on your behalf and mine for my sin.

And you know what happened? It says in Scripture -

66 From that time many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him. In other words, they said, "I do not want this crucified life. I am very happy the way things are. After all, I have my friends in that group." We don't realize that we put other things before the number one requirement, that we be identified with those who are taught in the Spirit and receive the Word of God as the Word of the living God.

In **Colossians 2**, we read -

6 As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him: As I have said many times, I am sure, we receive Jesus Christ not by our works; we received Jesus Christ by faith. We said, *Thank You, Lord*. We received Him.

7 Rooted and built up in him, . . . the Scripture goes on to say **. . . and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving.** Take that again and realize this is the

normal to receive the Word of God. You are required, if you are to live on planet earth, to have such a thing as oxygen to breathe. You are required, if your body is to operate at all, to have water – some form of water – because a lot of your body is made up of water. Therefore, how much more are we, who are born of the Spirit by faith, required to receive by faith the things of Christ from His Word. We cannot be built up any other way but to be in the Word of God, and to receive the Word not from our intellectual knowledge, because as we read - ***My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge.*** With all the learning we know nothing, unless we understand this principle of receiving by faith from the Lord. What did you receive today by faith from the Lord? What did He, the living God, say to you as you met Him in the Word? That is the faith I am talking about. That is the talking to Him and Him talking to you.

So listen again - **(Colossians 2)**

6 ***As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in Him*** *- walk by faith:*

7 Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, *- taught to walk by faith -* ***abounding therein with thanksgiving.*** Perhaps your life does not overflow with that thanksgiving. Perhaps you are somehow having your emotions taut. Perhaps it is according to what you feel is what you require and you have your own little worked-out form of godliness and religion and

somehow it will all sort itself out. “Yes, I am saved and, in the bye and bye, I will fall into what God is saying.” No, you have been purchased by Him, that this life by faith might be known on a daily basis. There is not a person we read of in the Word of God, who God took and used, who did not live by faith. The whole principle has to do with faith. The Old Testament, looking to the Cross, by faith. The New Testament, looking back to the Cross, by faith. The crucified life is a life of faith. It has to do with what I am receiving from the Lord at this moment. Love the Lord with all your heart. Turn to the Word and, as you open the Word of God, say - *Lord, I receive by faith what You are saying to me. That is the life I want for the glory of Jesus.*

Amen.