

DUMB

TEXT:

Isaiah 1:3: The ox knoweth his owner, and the ass his master's crib; but Israel doth not know, My people do not consider.

INTRODUCTION

The ox and the ass were common animals in Isaiah's day. If he were talking to us today, he might say — the horse knows his owner, and the dog the place where his master feeds him. And would he say also that some in the church — like Israel — do not know the Master, the Lord Jesus, nor do they come to the place where they can receive spiritual nourishment: the Church, Sunday school, and Bible study. In fact, they do not even know where their spiritual table is.



HERE IS A TEST TO INDICATE YOUR SPIRITUAL I.Q.

Do you know the Master?

- As Saviour?
- As Lord and Master?
- As your Sanctifier?
- As your Healer?
- As your Baptizer in the Holy Spirit?
- As your Divine Teacher?

Ephesians 4:20-21: ²⁰ But ye have not so learned Christ; ²¹ If so be that ye have heard Him, and have been taught by Him, as the truth in Jesus:

- As your Soon Coming King?

Do you know where spiritual food is?

- Do you know the power of prayer?



- Do you know the benefit of Bible study?
- Do you belong to a Christian fellowship?

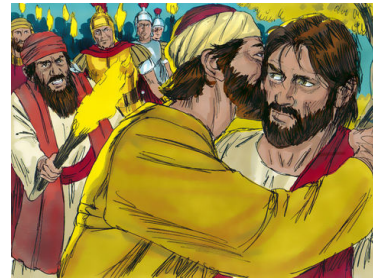
If you answered “No” to any of these questions, then Isaiah is talking to you.

YOU SHOULD KNOW THE MASTER AS YOUR SAVIOUR AND LORD.

- Avoid the pitfalls that the Bible describes as it records many who had a gross spiritual insanity.

Matthew 15:14-16: ¹⁴ *Let them alone: they be blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch.* ¹⁵ *Then answered Peter and said unto Him, Declare unto us this parable.* ¹⁶ *And Jesus said, Are ye also yet without understanding?*

- **Judas** — He was wise in business, having been given the responsibility of handling the common purse for Jesus and the disciples. He had an opportunity to hear the words of Life from Jesus, but was interested only in a good life in this present world. He was unheeded of Jesus’ warnings and of His influence for good. He exhibited less than spiritual insanity in his deadly betrayal of Jesus.



Judas betrays Jesus with a kiss.

- **Felix** — A Roman puppet governor of Judea, under Nero. *Tacitus*, the historian, writes that Felix was extremely wicked, and that he ruled with oppressive cruelty. When Paul was brought before him for trial, Paul gave a moving testimony about the Lord Jesus Christ.

Acts 24:25: [Paul] *reasoned of righteousness, temperance, and judgment to come and Felix trembled and answered; Go thy way for this time; when I have a convenient season, I will call for thee.*



Felix sends Paul away.

Momentarily convicted of his sinful condition, Felix decided to wait till a later time to get right with the Lord. This is another type of spiritual insanity, for that time never came, and he was forever lost.

- **Agrippa** — Had the title of “king”, and ruled with the consent of Nero. He loved pomp and ceremony. He was cynical in his approach to the things

of God. In response to Paul's impassioned plea to him — to be convinced of the Divine nature of Jesus Christ — Agrippa listened and came to a non-conclusion:

Acts 26:28: "Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian."

- **RESULTS**

- Judas could only see this life and material things.
- Felix wanted to wait until a convenient time.
- Agrippa was almost persuaded.

For them, the time of choice went by forever!



King Agrippa

- **WHERE DO YOU STAND?**

- Are you "to busy" with things pertaining to this present life?
- Do you want to live for self, even for family, for just now, and then think of God when you are on your deathbed?
- Are you almost persuaded you should make a decision for Christ now, at this moment?



Don't be a victim of spiritual insanity!

DO YOU KNOW WHERE THE SPIRITUAL FOOD IS?

Isaiah said the ass knew the master's crib, but Israel did not know where to get spiritual food.

- **There is spiritual food in Bible study.**
 - Not just Bible reading, but Bible study
Use a good Concordance
Meet with friends and talk about the Scriptures
- **There is spiritual food in prayer, for he who has prayed well has studied well.**
 - Communion with God is a daily essential for the nourishment and



growth of a Christian.

- There is spiritual food in Christian fellowship.
 - Belong to a church which preaches the atoning work of Christ.
 - Be active in the church – work, give, and be a faithful witness for Jesus.



- It is being dumb to know where the food is and not get what you need for eternal life.

IF YOU ARE SPIRITUALLY STUPID — WHAT IS THE CURE?

- Humble yourself before God and tell Him of blindness, ignorance, and your need of help, illumination, and enlightenment.

Hebrews 6:4: For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the Heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Spirit.

- Accept what He has already done for you in providing:
 - A perfect sacrifice for your sin in the Lamb of God



John 1:9: That was the True Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world.

- His Word — available to you to know
- His Spirit — to comfort and guide you, and empower you to live for Him

John 14:26: But the Comforter, Who is the Holy Spirit, Whom the Father will send in My Name, He shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

John 16: 7: Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send Him unto you.

John 16:13: Howbeit, when He, the Spirit of Truth, is come,

He will guide you into all truth: for He shall not speak of Himself; but whatsoever He shall hear, that shall He speak: and He will show you things to come.

SPIRITUALLY DUMB

Isaiah 1:3: The ox knoweth his owner, and the ass his master's crib: but Israel doth not know, my people doth not consider.

- The way of a transgressor is hard.
- You must prepare to meet God.
- Just as you sow, you are going to reap.
- God's people were destroyed because of lack of knowledge.
- Sin pays wages.

Romans 6:23: For the wages of sin is death; but the Gift of God is Eternal Life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

- As Christians, we must all appear before the Judgment Seat of Christ.



Romans 14:10: But why dost thou judge thy brother? or why dost thou set at nought thy brother? for we all shall stand before the Judgment Seat of Christ.

2 Corinthians 5:10: For we must all appear before the Judgment Seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.

- All sinners must stand before the White Throne Judgment.



Revelation 20:11-15:

11 And I saw a Great White Throne, and Him Who sat on it, from Whose face the earth and the Heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them.

12 And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the Books were opened: and another Book was opened, which is the Book of Life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the Books, according to their works.

13 And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and Hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works.

14 And death and Hell were cast into the Lake of Fire. This is the second death.

15 And whosoever was not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the Lake of Fire.

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