

## 2012 – The Most Urgent Need

Stepping into 2012, there is no shortage of attention being drawn to what our country needs. Few people, especially those who will spend the next several months telling us what we need, have raised the issue of what our needs are as individuals before a Holy God. As the world in general examines our needs from a social and economical perspective, let us as Christians and a church look closely at our spiritual needs.



On the church level, some say that the most urgent need is missions and the need to get the gospel into our communities and the world. Others insist that the greatest need begins with moral purity, and still others would say abortion continues to be the challenge of our time. Some state that the most urgent need is a return to our dependence on God and less on ourselves and materialism. Still, someone else will reply that it is the need for more biblical teaching in our churches, better worship, and the list goes on.

Clearly all of the above needs are important. But there is a sense in which all these needs are just symptomatic of a far more serious one: *we need to know God better!* In the biblical view of things, a deeper, fuller knowledge of God brings with it great improvement in all the other areas: greater commitment to missions and evangelism, moral purity, concern for the sanctity of life, improved worship, better teaching, and much more. But if we seek all of these other things without passionately pursuing God, we are running after God's blessings without running after Him!

Can we really meet all the challenges of 2012 without wholeheartedly pursuing Him first? Probably not! May pursuing God be our primary need for 2012!

*Thus says the LORD: "Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, Let not the mighty man glory in his might, Nor let the rich man glory in his riches; {24} But let him who glories glory in this, That he understands and knows Me, That I am the LORD, exercising lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness in the earth. For in these I delight," says the LORD (Jeremiah 9:23-24 NKJV)*