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	What Are the Two Levels of Knowledge? As powerful as ignorance is, it has an		simply knowing about the sun change your health or your life? No, only when you bask in its light can you be influenced by its powers. Everyone has the potential not only to know God but to see Him, with his or her heart and soul.
	equally powerful antidote: knowledge. In truth, knowledge is a veritable treasure for man, and a source of glory, of bounty, of joy, of exalta- tion, of cheer and gladness unto him. ¹ Bahá'u'lláh	le of a- co sh	Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. Christ (Matt. 5:8) What happens when the heart is blinded? It turns into a veil. I dealt with them [Israelites] accord- ing to their uncleanness and their offenses, and <i>hid My Face from</i>
	The light of the people of the world is their knowledge and utterance ² The Báb Knowledge here does not refer to the acquisition of facts, but to the <i>aware-</i> <i>ness of truth</i> . Knowledge without love for truth is only thin air: Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. I Corinthians 8:1 The two most significant levels of awareness are <i>knowing</i> , and <i>seeing</i> . I have <i>heard</i> of You by the hearing of the ear, but now my eyes <i>see</i> You. Job 42:5		<i>them.</i> Ezekiel 39:24 The main reason religion has little impact on people's lives is that it exists mostly in the stage of knowing. It is rooted in the mind, but not the heart. Every poll taken in recent years shows that more than 90 percent of Americans believe in God. A recent Gallup poll indicates that "96 percent of Americans believe in God90 percent believe in heaven79 percent believe in angels." And yet crime, violence, abuse, and fraud are rampant.
	Think of your heart as iron and of truth as acid. Can any interaction take place between the two elements as long as they are kept apart? The same principle applies to knowing. Unless knowledge reaches the stage of "in- sight," no interaction can ensue. Or think of knowledge as the sun. Can		The most essential knowledge is from and about God. Without the light of that knowledge, which comes through His Messengers, the soul remains in total darkness: I am the light of the world. Christ (John 9:5)
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a sa sa sa s simply knowing about the sun change God hath manifested Me with a your health or your life? No, only light that hath encompassed all that are in the heavens and all that are when you bask in its light can you be influenced by its powers. Everyone on earth.³ has the potential not only to know The signs and tokens of the Truth God but to see Him, with his or her shine even as the midday sun, and heart and soul yet the people are wandering, aimlessly and perplexedly, in the wil-Blessed are the pure in heart, for derness of ignorance and folly.⁴ they shall see God. Christ (Matt. 5:8) What happens when the heart is The first requirement for living in blinded? It turns into a veil. peace and joy is to decipher the mys-I dealt with them [Israelites] accordterv of God-to know Him as intiing to their uncleanness and their mately as possible. Once that is offenses, and hid My Face from accomplished, everything else will Ezekiel 39:24 take care of itself. Only the knowledge of God can give meaning and The main reason religion has little impurpose to our lives. pact on people's lives is that it exists mostly in the stage of knowing. It is The beginning of all things is the rooted in the mind, but not the heart. knowledge of God...⁵ Every poll taken in recent years shows True knowledge, therefore, is the that more than 90 percent of Ameriknowledge of God, and this is none cans believe in God. A recent Gallup other than the recognition of His poll indicates that "96 percent of Manifestation in each Dispensa-Americans believe in God...90 percent tion.⁶ believe in heaven...79 percent believe in miracles...and 72 percent believe in angels." And yet crime, violence, abuse, and fraud are rampant.

The Báb The source of all learning is the knowledge of God, exalted be His glory, and this cannot be attained save though the knowledge of His Divine Manifestation.⁷ Bahá'u'lláh

Bahá'u'lláh

Bahá'u'lláh

Bahá'u'lláh

"Knowledge is a light which God casteth into the heart of whomsoever He willeth." It is this kind of knowledge which is and hath ever been praiseworthy, and not the limited knowledge that hath sprung

LA LA LA forth from veiled and obscured minds⁸ Bahá'u'lláh Knowledge of God reaches and interacts only with pure hearts, just as the rays of the sun glow with full glory and power only in clean mirrors. As ignorance is the source and essence of all vices, so are knowledge and love for truth the sources and essence of all virtues: The essence of all that We have revealed for thee is Justice, is for man to free himself from idle fancy and imitation, discern with the eye of oneness His glorious handiwork, and look into all things with a searching eve.9 Bahá'u'lláh In the preceding statement, Bahá'u'lláh singles out five qualities: • Justice • Freedom from idle fancy, illusions, or myths • Freedom from blind conformity and imitation • The ability to look into everything with a searching eye • The ability to discern with the eve of oneness, to see the "big picture," as God does Only a small minority can fulfill all these requirements. Once again we can see why, throughout all ages, truth has been suppressed and resisted. No wonder so many remain with the religion of their ancestors. If they met all

