

For the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David.

1 O LORD, You have searched me and known me. 2 You know my sitting down and my rising up; You understand my thought afar off. 3 You comprehend my path and my lying down, And are acquainted with all my ways. 4 For there is not a word on my tongue, But behold, O LORD, You know it altogether. 5 You have hedged me behind and before, And laid Your hand upon me. 6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; It is high, I cannot attain it.

7 Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? 8 If I ascend into heaven, You are there; If I make my bed in hell, behold, You are there. 9 If I take the wings of the morning, And dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, 10 Even there Your hand shall lead me, And Your right hand shall hold me. 11 If I say, "Surely the darkness shall fall on me," Even the night shall be light about me; 12 Indeed, the darkness shall not hide from You, But the night shines as the day; The darkness and the light are both alike to You.

13 For You formed my inward parts; You covered me in my mother's womb. 14 I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully

*incommunicable attributes*, as opposed to the communicable attributes. When he's holy, loving, or wise, you can catch those. You can catch his attributes, but not all of them. Some attributes belong to him and him alone - the omni... attributes He is omniscient; he knows everything. He is omnipotent; he has all power. He's omnipresent; he's everywhere.

The main point of Psalm 139 is he's ever present. We can't get around him or away from him. His presence is our inescapable environment.

For the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David.

2 Samuel 23:1 Now these are the last words of David. Thus says David the son of Jesse; Thus says the man raised up on high, The anointed of the God of Jacob, And the sweet psalmist of Israel:

1 O LORD, You have searched me and known me.

David prayed to Yahweh, understanding that God had personal knowledge of him. David knew that God cares about humanity. The Lord is a personal God bringing together a family in Christ.

2 You know my sitting down and my rising up; You understand my thought afar off.

God knows everything about our lives, even the things that seem meaningless to us.

made; Marvelous are Your works, And that my soul knows very well. 15 My frame was not hidden from You, When I was made in secret, And skillfully wrought in the lowest parts of the earth. 16 Your eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed. And in Your book they all were written, The days fashioned for me, When as yet there were none of them.

17 How precious also are Your thoughts to me, O God! How great is the sum of them! 18 If I should count them, they would be more in number than the sand; When I awake, I am still with You.

19 Oh, that You would slay the wicked, O God! Depart from me, therefore, you bloodthirsty men. 20 For they speak against You wickedly; Your enemies take Your name in vain. 21 Do I not hate them, O LORD, who hate You? And do I not loathe those who rise up against You? 22 I hate them with perfect hatred; I count them my enemies.

23 Search me, O God, and know my heart; Try me, and know my anxieties; 24 And see if there is any wicked way in me, And lead me in the way everlasting.

According to Jesus, God knows the number of hairs on our head (Matthew 10:30). God knows way more about us, than we know ourselves.

I'm right here with my thoughts, and I have a hard time with them, are they good thoughts, bad thoughts, what is my motive, is my motive good or bad.

God understand our thoughts when they are being formulated, before we even articulate them in our mind.

3 You comprehend my path and my lying down, And are acquainted with all my ways.

God knows the routes we walk, drive. He knows where we like to rest. He is very familiar with the way we do everything. He know us better that we know ourselves.

Proverbs 15:3 says, "The eyes of the Lord are everywhere keeping watch on the wicked and the good."

4 For there is not a word on my tongue, But behold, O LORD, You know it altogether.

He even knows what we are going to say before we say it. God, Yahweh - You know it all (Omniscient) God is omniscient - He know everything.

God is beyond time - He is always in a timeless present, that includes our past, present and future in time - boats on a winding river - past, present, future - God is on the mountain top

God sees everything, but you only ever see a little slice. You see yourself as young. You see yourself as old. You see yourself as whatever, but he sees all of you.

5 You have hedged me behind and before, And laid Your hand upon me.

I'm not sure where to go with this. Is this a moment of security, or fear? He sense God's omniscience, and now he is cognizant of God's omnipresence - God is everywhere?

You are in front of me, and behind me, and your hand is on top of me. Is the hand pressure or comfort? Is he feeling hemmed in and smothered, imprisoned, or is he feeling fortified?

6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; It is high, I cannot attain it.

This knowledge is too amazing, supernatural, beyond me, out of reach, too high, circuits are blowing, I can't take it. I can't handle it. This is overwhelming!

7 Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence?

David now elaborates on the omnipresence of God - Your presence = your face - That God is everywhere. God is not everywhere like a air (mixture of gasses) filling a room - All of him is everywhere. He's completely present at every point in space.

David possibly due to the unnerving thought of God knowing everything about him, considers how he might run from God and find a place where he can get away from Him. This could be very Jonah-esque

8 If I ascend into heaven, You are there; If I make my bed in hell, behold, You are there.

Extremes of height and depth - stars to sheol (depths of the earth - place of the dead)

9 If I take the wings of the morning, And dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,

Sunrise (East) - Mediterranean Sea (West) - Extremes horizontally - lightspeed - can't outrun God either

10 Even there Your hand shall lead me, And Your right hand shall hold me.

We run from God, because we want to control our lives, the reality is, No matter where we go God is involved in our lives. We want freedom, and we want guidance and support.

We can't live with God; we can't live without God. We We want to be known, and we don't want to be known. We're trying to escape from that which is inescapable.

11 If I say, "Surely the darkness shall fall on me," Even the night shall be light about me; 12 Indeed, the darkness shall not hide from You, But the night shines as the day; The darkness and the light are both alike to You.

Even in the cover of darkness - there is no escaping you - The cover of darkness is like the noonday sun for you. Your wisdom, power, intelligence, love, kindness, your grace is not hindered by darkness.

You run, you try and hide from God - find yourself in darkness (belly of a great fish) God is there, God is good, God can see.

The light goes on - Transition to the fatherly love and care of the omniscient, omnipresent, omnipotent God.

13 For You formed my inward parts; You covered me in my mother's womb.

Inward - parts - kidney - reins - organs and identity - personality - God knew David from before his birth, as a child conceived and developing in the womb.

I've been covered - hedged in - protected since before I was born. Psalm 139 demonstrates that God sees another person in the mother's womb.

14 I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Marvelous are Your works, And that my soul knows very well.

The workings of the human body are stunning in their design and execution. We know far more than David ever did about how we are made, and it should make us full of more awe and praise than David ever had. David would love People are awesome videos

15 My frame was not hidden from You, When I was made in secret, And skillfully wrought in the lowest parts of the earth.

Even though I was once in this in the dark and mysterious place of human construction the womb - no one else knew what was happening - except you God - skillfully wrought = embroidered

16 Your eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed. And in Your book they all were written, The days fashioned for me, When as yet there were none of them.

Architect - Engineer - Artist - thought out -designed - planned - beforehand - even the lifespan

He not only creates, ordains, sustains, and upholds your body and soul, keeping you together at every second, keeping your molecules together, but he also creates, ordains, sustains, and upholds your history.

Eph 2:10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

At the one end of human life is conception. At the very end of your life, when you're old and you feel like, "What am I even here for?" **it's ordained.** There's a plan. There's a reason.

This is the reason why for centuries from the early Christians to the ancient Jews, has always said both abortion and active euthanasia are wrong. Why? Because you're putting yourself in the place of God. **God's in charge of those parts of life.**

Life in the very, very beginning (in the womb) and life at the very, very end (when you're really old) is fragile. It's inconvenient. We might say, "Let's do something about it," but that's a violation, according to the Bible, of the glory and rights of God.

17 How precious also are Your thoughts to me, O God! How great is the sum of them! 18 If I should count them, they would be more in number than the sand; When I awake, I am still with You.

God never stops thinking weighty, valuable, important, worthy, good, special thoughts about you.

Jer 29 10 I will visit you and perform My good word toward you, and cause you to return to this place. 11 For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope. 12 Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. 13 And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart. 14 I will be found by you, says the LORD,

When I awake I am still with you - **from death** - "I have a God who is impossible to lose, who's with me, who is always present with me, who has me by the hand and will never let me go. This God is so present with me, and he's gripped me so strongly, even if I die he's going to be with me."

If God has you by the hand, even if you go into darkness it will become light, and even if you go into **death it will become resurrection.**

In Mark 5, Jesus was brought into the room of a little girl who was laying there dead. They were all weeping, and he said, "Don't weep." He sat down. She was in deep darkness, of course. She was

making her bed in Sheol, but he took her by the hand and said, “Talitha koum!” Little one arise, or “Honey, it’s time to get up.”

He reaches right through death and grabs her by the hand, almost to say, “If I have you by the hand, even death is just a nice night’s sleep.” There’s the omnipresence God.

19 Oh, that You would slay the wicked, O God! Depart from me, therefore, you bloodthirsty men. 20 For they speak against You wickedly; Your enemies take Your name in vain. 21 Do I not hate them, O LORD, who hate You? And do I not loathe those who rise up against You? 22 I hate them with perfect hatred; I count them my enemies.

We all struggle with this idea of a God who’s all around us. We find it smothering. We want to make our own decisions. We don’t like being observed. We don’t like to feel we’re totally accountable for everything.

At the same time, we want him. We want that hand. We want to trust him. We want to rest in him. We want these assurances. How did David do it? How did he go from the threat to finding the presence of God and absolute, transforming joy?

How does David get the assurance that the presence of God will not be a lethal heat, but will be cool, wonderful love? When he is also aware of the justice and judgment of God.

Contrary to David, Jesus taught us to love our enemies. We’re supposed to do good to those who abuse us. We’re supposed to pray for our enemies.

Matt 5 43 “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ 44 But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you, 45 that you may be sons of your Father in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. 46 For if you love those who love you, what reward have you? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? 47 And if you greet your brethren only, what do you do more than others? Do not even the tax collectors do so? 48 Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.

What happened between David, and you and me, that the Bible now says you must never talk the way David talks right there? David’s greater son, died on a cross praying for his enemies

Luk 23:34 Then Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do.” And they divided His garments and cast lots.

Jesus Christ died praying Psalm 22, “My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?”

The whole psalm is about God being far away. Here’s David, and he can’t lose the presence of God and David’s greater son, Jesus Christ, can’t find the presence of God.

David knew because God had him by the hand even darkness would turn to light. Jesus knew because God had let go of his hand even the midday light was turning to darkness. He was plunged into darkness. David was knit together in his mother’s womb. Jesus was torn apart on the cross.

Jesus was getting what we deserve. You see, we try to get away. We try to live our own lives. We try to escape the inescapable, and that's wrong.

What's the penalty? It's to get what we ask for, to be abandoned. Jesus was abandoned. He lost the presence of God so if you believe in Jesus, **you have the presence of God forever.**

23 Search me, O God, and know my heart; Try me, and know my anxieties;

Verse 1 - you have searched me and know me - search me again

David wanted God to examine him and look for worry. Such anxieties could be evidence of unbelief or misplaced trust.

24 And see if there is any wicked way in me, And lead me in the way everlasting.

Opens his heart to the purifiers fire, the doctor's scalpel, and submits to the leading of the Lord, unto LIFE = Jesus is LIFE

Romans 8:38-39 38 For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, 39 nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.