

“Fearfully & Wonderfully Made!”

Psalm 139

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 made;  
Marvelous are Your works,  
And *that* my soul knows very well.
- 15 My frame was not hidden from You,

*Arnold A. Brevick*

- 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.

*I. God's knowledge of our lives, He is omniscient –  
ALL Knowing – God knows everything ...*

**For the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David.**

**<sup>1</sup> O LORD, You have searched me and known *me*. <sup>2</sup> You know my sitting down and my rising up; You understand my thought afar off. <sup>3</sup> You comprehend my path and my lying down, And are acquainted with all my ways. <sup>4</sup> For *there is* not a word on my tongue, *but* behold, O LORD, You know it altogether. <sup>5</sup> You have hedged me behind and before, and laid Your hand upon me. <sup>6</sup> *Such* knowledge *is* too wonderful for me; It is high, I cannot *attain* it. Psalm 139:1-6 (NKJV)**

**He knows if you are sleeping, he knows when you're awake, he knows if you've been bad or good, so be good for goodness sake ...**

1. *Our Lord Jesus tells us that God knows the numbers of hairs on our heads.  
Meaning He knows*

*every detail of our lives. Here we see:*

1. *Personal knowledge - **You have searched me and known me - :1***

*An intimate knowledge is implied here, loving, caring knowledge, like a spouse or a best friend, but infinitely better ...*

2. *Knowledge of movements, relaxing and rising - :2-3*

3. *Knowledge of thoughts - :2 B*

*We sometimes think we can read minds, or faces, God knows hearts and minds, thoughts and motives ... John Keen / John Grady .....*

4. *Knowledge of words spoken - :4*

### **Matthew 12:35–37 (NKJV)**

**<sup>35</sup> A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good things, and an evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth evil things. <sup>36</sup> But I say to you that for every idle word men may speak, they will give account of it in the day of judgment. <sup>37</sup> For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned."**

5. *For David this knowledge was protective and controlling - :5*

**<sup>5</sup> You have hedged me behind and before, and laid Your hand upon me.**

6. *And too wonderful - :6*

2. *Beyond David's Psalm, beyond my sermon, God's knowledge (even of ourselves) is beyond all our potential and possible attainment! We see an example of this in the life of Peter, who thought he knew himself better than Jesus did –*

<sup>31</sup> Then Jesus said to them, **“All of you will be made to stumble because of Me this night, for it is written: ‘I will strike the Shepherd, And the sheep of the flock will be scattered.’** <sup>32</sup> But after I have been raised, I will go before you to Galilee.” <sup>33</sup> Peter answered and said to Him, “Even if all are made to stumble because of You, I will never be made to stumble.” <sup>34</sup> Jesus said to him, **“Assuredly, I say to you that this night, before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times.”** <sup>35</sup> Peter said to Him, “Even if I have to die with You, I will not deny You!” And so said all the disciples. Matthew 26:31–35 (NKJV)

<sup>75</sup> And Peter remembered the word of Jesus who had said to him, **“Before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times.”** So he went out and wept bitterly. Matthew 26:75 (NKJV)

3. *Certainly, no false god, no god of our imagination or making, could KNOW us –*

<sup>4</sup> Their idols are silver and gold, The work of men's hands. <sup>5</sup> They have mouths, but they do not speak; Eyes they have, but they do not see; <sup>6</sup> They have ears, but they do not hear; Noses they have, but they do not smell; <sup>7</sup> They have hands, but they do not handle; Feet they have, but they do not walk; Nor do they mutter through their throat. <sup>8</sup> Those who make them are like them; So is everyone who trusts in them. Psalm 115:4–8 (NKJV)

*II. God's omnipresence – God is everywhere ...*

<sup>7</sup> Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? <sup>8</sup> If I ascend into heaven, You are there; If I make my bed in hell, behold, You are there. <sup>9</sup> If I take the wings of the morning, And dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, <sup>10</sup> Even there Your hand shall lead me, And Your right hand shall hold me. <sup>11</sup> If I say, “Surely the darkness shall fall on me,” Even the night shall be light about me; <sup>12</sup> 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. Psalm 139:7-12 (NKJV)

Darkness and light in this agree;  
Great God, they're both alike to Thee.  
Thine hand can pierce Thy foes as soon  
Through midnight shades as blazing noon.

C.H. Spurgeon

No place to run, no place to hide, where ever we go, He does abide...  
Up to Heaven, Of course He's there! Down to Hell? He's everywhere!  
If FAST from Him, you'd try to race, He'd laugh at your slow turtle's pace  
For at your finish line, He'd be; before you thought to run you see ...  
No secret place you'll find to go, that He does not already know!

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### *III. God's creative power and planning (of us and our lives) –*

**<sup>13</sup> For You formed my inward parts; You covered me in my mother's womb. <sup>14</sup> I will praise You, for I am fearfully *and* wonderfully made; Marvelous are Your works, and *that* my soul knows very well. <sup>15</sup> My frame was not hidden from You, When I was made in secret, *And* skillfully wrought in the lowest parts of the earth. <sup>16</sup> 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.* Psalm 139:13-16 (NKJV)**

1. *God is our creator, what a wonderful creation we are! If we found a computer on the beach, and an instruction book with it, would we say the wind and the waves blew it together? Time and dumb luck? No, we would conclude an intelligent designer ...*

2. *We are more advanced than any computer:*

*A. Are computers self-aware? B. Is a computer capable of joy? Sadness? Emotion? Moral reasoning? C. Can computers reproduce? If they did; would we chalk it up to dumb luck?*

#### IV. *God's mind, thoughts and thinking –*

<sup>17</sup> How precious also are Your thoughts to me, O God! How great is the sum of them! <sup>18</sup> *If I should count them, they would be more in number than the sand; When I awake, I am still with You. Psalm 139:17-18; see also Romans 11:33-36*

#### Romans 11:33–36 (NKJV)

<sup>33</sup> Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out!

<sup>34</sup> *“For who has known the mind of the LORD?  
Or who has become His counselor?”*

<sup>35</sup> *“Or who has first given to Him  
And it shall be repaid to him?”*

<sup>36</sup> For of Him and through Him and to Him are all things, to whom be glory forever. Amen.

#### V. *David's prayer against the wicked and wickedness in himself –*

<sup>19</sup> Oh, that You would slay the wicked, O God! Depart from me, therefore, you bloodthirsty men. <sup>20</sup> For they speak against You wickedly; Your enemies take *Your name* in vain. <sup>21</sup> Do I not hate them, O LORD, who hate You? And do I not loathe those who rise up against You? <sup>22</sup> I hate them with perfect hatred; I count them my enemies. <sup>23</sup> Search me, O God, and know my heart; Try me, and know my anxieties; <sup>24</sup> And see if *there is any wicked way* in me, And lead me in the way everlasting. Psalm 139:19-23

1. *David's attitude toward and hatred of the wicked, how does this relate to Jesus' commands – **Matthew 5:44-48**? David is a King, charged with enforcing God's law; Matthew 5 speaks to personal dealings*
2. *David's concern about his own “wicked way” ... important for all, but especially a king, or anyone in leadership – **Acts 20:28***