

We have been studying the **attributes of God**.

What is God like?

God has many amazing attributes.

God is...

• **Creator** • **Truth** • **Eternal** • **Self-existent** • **Gracious** He is **the Great I AM** • **Wise** • **Righteous** • **Sovereign** • **Holy** • **Good, ...** • **Omnipotent** - **God is Present** - **Unchanging** - **God is Faithful**.

Today we are looking at:

God's **omniscience**!

Omni = **all**

Science = **knowledge**

God has **ALL KNOWLEDGE**. He knows everything.

He knows everything about **Santa Rosa Bible Church**. He knows everything about what **President Biden** is doing in Washington **DC**. He knows everything about everything that is going on in the world.

And, he knows everything about you!

He knows what you ate for **breakfast**. He knows what's **under your bed** at home. He knows how many **hairs** are on your head.

He knows everything about you.

We're going to look at Psalm 139:1-6.

Psalm 139:1

¹ You have searched me, LORD,
and you know me.

God, **not only** do you know everything about me, but you **WANT** to know everything about me. You want to know me.

You have **searched me**.

God has **DONE HIS RESEARCH** on you. He's searched out everything about you. Because he loves you and he wants to know you.

Have you ever made a **new friend?** And you're so excited to get to know your friend. You want to talk and play with your friend. You want to go see their house, and see their room. You want to find out what they like to do. You want to know **everything** about your friend.

That's how God feels about you. He really wants to know you.

So he has searched out everything there is to know about you.

God, You know everything about me.

² You know when I sit and when I rise;

God knows that you're sitting down right now. He knows when you will get up.

He's **paying attention** to you.

Sometimes I hear kids complain: **"She is ignoring me."**

- She's **NOT** listening.
- She's not looking at me.
- She's not paying attention.

But God is not like that. He is paying close attention to you.

He always knows what you're doing.

And **beyond that**, He always knows what you're thinking.

² You know when I sit and when I rise;

you perceive my thoughts from afar.

Sometimes you get in trouble, and it was **NOT** really your fault.

You think, **"It was** an accident. I didn't mean to do that."

God knows. He knows **your thoughts**. [BRAIN]

Sometimes **NO ONE ELSE KNOWS** that you're sad. Or that you're lonely. **But God** knows. And, he cares.

He knows **YOUR THOUGHTS** now and he knows them from **afar**.

- **Right Now**: No matter where you go on earth. No matter how far you travel. ... He knows what you're thinking.

- There are thoughts in the back of your mind that you forgot about. There in your brain somewhere. He knows about those too.
- **In the Past**: He knows what you were thinking yesterday. Or last year. Or even years ago when you were a baby. You were like, "Wow, this banana is really good!" You couldn't talk yet, but you were thinking it. And, He knows those thoughts.
- Even the earliest thoughts that went through our mind seconds and minutes after we were born. Even thoughts that you have completely forgotten about.
- **In the Future**: He knows what you're going to think about tomorrow. He knows what you will think about far into the future... when your soccer team wins. When you graduate from high school. When you get married. When you have your own kids and when you're really OLD and you have your own grandkids. He knows what you're going to be thinking about even then.
 - **When you come to the end of your life**: When you're in the hospital and you're about to die. He'll be there with you... And he already knows what you will be thinking on that day.

He knows our thoughts. He knows them all.

And, he knows what we are doing as we think these thoughts.

³ You discern my going out and my lying down;
you are familiar with all my ways.

Our God knows when we lie down to sleep and when we rise to face the day. He knows when we are working on a project. He knows when we take a nap.

And, he knows what you're going to say before you say it.

⁴ Before a word is on my tongue
you, LORD, know it completely.

You **haven't** even thought about what you're going to say, but **God already knows**.

He knows when you're tempted to say mean words to your brother or sister. Or, when you are being really nice, and you're thinking of kind words that you can say to them.

- Good job
- I love you
- You are so special to me

He knows. God is omniscient.

You have **NEVER** spoken a word that God didn't know before you said it. Maybe you were speaking off the cuff. Spontaneously. Just saying whatever popped into your head.

The words come out and you think, "**Oh no**. I **shouldn't** have said that." Your words are a surprise even to you. But they are not to God.

Some have said of a **dear friend**: "**She knows me** better than I know myself."

That is never more true than when referring to God. He knows you THAT well!

There's something in us that **wants to be known**. Wants to be cared about. Wants to be understood.

I never realized how important my family was until I went **off to college**. It was so lonely being in a place where no one knew me. Where I had no friends.

I remember walking across campus pretending like I had somewhere to go.

When I first got to college my freshman year, I felt like my **PAST HAD BEEN ERASED**. No one knew anything about me. I was anonymous. And, there was a drive in me to want to be known.

During the first week, I was put in a **small group**. In my group, We learned each other's names. We shared details about our lives. These people in my group started to know me. And, I felt close to that group. And, I wanted to spend more time with them. I wanted to be with the people who knew me.

There's something in us that wants to be known. That wants people to check up on us. To care about us. To worry about us. To know us.

And, how wonderful it is that **our God knows us**. He knows every detail of our lives...past, present and future. He knows every thought that ever entered our mind or ever will enter our mind.

There's a **joy** in that. **BUT** there's also a **fear**.

We fear that if people know us too well, they might **NOT like us**. If you knew everything about me, you might not like me.

And, we wonder. **God**, you have seen it all. You know everything about me. Do you still like me?

Will you still be my friend? Or, will you ditch me?

But quite the opposite is true. He does **not** move away, but draws near.

⁵ You hem me in behind and before,
and you lay your hand upon me.

HEM is used in sowing. It makes me think about laying on a **big snugly quilt** where God puts material over me and sows me in tight so I am snugly and warm with his closeness.

The **Net Bible** translates this: **You squeeze me in.**

God is all up in my space.

Years ago we had a **neighbor** who was always **spying on us**. She peaked through the fence. She had a two story house that could see the entirety of our backyard. If we looked out our window, it was a common occurrence to see her face looking back. We had the **feeling that she knew everything** that was going on at our house.

In reality, I'm sure she didn't quite know everything. But God does. He knows everything.

It's astounding. David says...

⁶ Such knowledge is too wonderful for me,
too lofty for me to attain.

How does God know all of that? That's a lot of information!

Have you heard about **DNA?** – That's the computer code in your body that determines who you are...what you look like, how tall you'll be, etc.

The DNA for **JUST YOU** would fill the pages of **200 1,000-page** New York City telephone books.

- It would take a person **typing 60 words** per minute, eight hours a day, around 50 years to type the human genome.
- If all three billion letters in your genome, your DNA, were stacked one millimeter apart, they would reach a height **7,000 times** the height of the **Empire State Building**.
- If all the **DNA** in your body was put end to end, it would reach to the **sun and back** over 600 times.

And that's **just for YOU**. Just for 1 person.

God knows the DNA and all the intimate details about **every person on earth**.

- And not just the people that live **today**, but every person that ever lived in the **history** of the world.

- And, he knows all these details about every person who **will ever live** in the future ... ***until*** the end of the world.

David says: This is mind-blowing. It's **too wonderful** for me. It's too lofty for me to attain simply the amount of knowledge housed in the mind of God.

But there's **ANOTHER THING** that's too wonderful for David. He can't understand how God knowing everything he does about him still loves him.

You ever **wonder**... God you know everything about me. **Do you still love me?**

Do you ever get tired of me?

One of our greatest fears is that people will get to know us and then **NOT** love us. That they won't like us. They won't want to be our friend.

I have done a lot of bad things. And, I wonder sometimes... How could God love me?

But he does! He loved me so much that he sent Jesus to die on the cross so that all of my sins could be forgiven. He loves me that much!

This is amazing!!!

God, you know it all. And, you still love me. This is too wonderful for me! It sounds too good to be true.

God, I don't know what to say. I am so happy.

I can't believe that you love me, and you think about me all the time.

Verse 17

¹⁷How precious to me are your thoughts, O God!

How vast is the sum of them!

¹⁸If I would count them, they are more than the sand.

Do you know how much **sand** there is on earth?

Scientists have calculated an estimate of **7 quintillion**, five hundred quadrillion grains of sand. That's a 7, then a 5, and then 17 zero's.

That's how much God thinks about you. That's how many thoughts he has about you.

God is **omniscient**. He knows everything.

He thinks about you ***all the time***.

And he loves you very much!