

PSALM 139

God's Omnipresence and Omniscience.

For the choir director. A Psalm of David.

- 1 O LORD, Thou hast ^asearched me and known *me*.
2 Thou ^adost know ¹when I sit down and ²when I rise up;
Thou ^bdost understand my thought from afar.
3 Thou ^adost ¹scrutinize my ²path and my lying down,
And art intimately acquainted with all my ways.
4 ¹Even before there is a word on my tongue,
Behold, O LORD, Thou ^adost know it all.
5 Thou hast ^aenclosed me behind and before,
And ^blaid Thy hand upon me.
6 *Such* ^aknowledge is ^btoo wonderful for me;
It is *too* high, I cannot attain to it.
- 7 ^aWhere can I go from Thy Spirit?
Or where can I flee from Thy presence?
8 ^aIf I ascend to heaven, Thou art there;
If I make my bed in ¹Sheol, behold, ^bThou art there.
9 If I take the wings of the dawn,
If I dwell in the remotest part of the sea,
10 Even there Thy hand will ^alead me,
And Thy right hand will lay hold of me.
11 If I say, "Surely the ^adarkness will ¹overwhelm me,
And the light around me will be night,"
12 Even the ^adarkness is not dark ¹to Thee,
And the night is as bright as the day.
^bDarkness and light are alike *to* Thee.
- 13 For Thou didst ^aform my ¹inward parts;
Thou didst ^bweave me in my mother's womb.
14 I will give thanks to Thee, for ¹I am fearfully and wonderfully made;
^aWonderful are Thy works,
And my soul knows it very well.
15 My ¹frame was not hidden from Thee,
When I was made in secret,
And skillfully wrought in the ^bdepths of the earth.
16 Thine ^aeyes have seen my unformed substance;
And in ^bThy book they were all written,
The ^cdays that were ordained *for me*,
When as yet there was not one of them.

17 How precious also are Thy ^athoughts to me, O God!
 How vast is the sum of them!
18 If I should count them, they would ^aoutnumber the sand.
 When ^bI awake, I am still with Thee.

19 O that Thou wouldst ^aslay the wicked, O God;
^bDepart from me, therefore, ^cmen of bloodshed.
20 For they ^aspeak ¹against Thee wickedly,
 And Thine enemies ²^btake *Thy name* in vain.
21 Do I not ^ahate those who hate Thee, O LORD?
 And do I not ^bloathe those who rise up against Thee?
22 I hate them with the utmost hatred;
 They have become my enemies.

23 ^aSearch me, O God, and know my heart;
^bTry me and know my anxious thoughts;
24 And see if there be any ¹^ahurtful way in me,
 And ^blead me in the ^ceverlasting way.

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^a Ps. 17:3; 44:21; Jer. 12:3

^a 2 Kin. 19:27

¹ Lit., *my sitting*

² Lit., *my rising*

^b Ps. 94:11; Is. 66:18; Matt. 9:4

^a Job 14:16; 31:4

¹ Lit., *winnow*

² Or, *journeying*

¹ Lit., *For there is not*

^a Heb. 4:13

^a Ps. 34:7; 125:2

^b Job 9:33

^a Rom. 11:33

^b Job 42:3

^a Jer. 23:24

^a Amos 9:2-4

¹ I.e., the nether world

^b Job 26:6; Prov. 15:11

^a Ps. 23:2, 3

^a Job 22:13

¹ Lit., *bruise*; some commentators read Or, *cover*

^a Job 34:22; Dan. 2:22

¹ Lit., *from*

^b 1 John 1:5

^a Ps. 119:73; Is. 44:24

¹ Lit., *kidneys*

^b Job 10:11

¹ Some ancient versions read *Thou art fearfully wonderful*

^a Ps. 40:5

¹ Lit., *bones were*

^a Job 10:8-10; Eccl. 11:5

^b Ps. 63:9

^a Job 10:8-10; Eccl. 11:5

^b Ps. 56:8

^c Job 14:5

^a Ps. 40:5; 92:5

^a Ps. 40:5

^b Ps. 3:5

^a Is. 11:4

^b Ps. 6:8; 119:115

^c Ps. 5:6; 26:9

^a Jude 15

¹ Or, *of*

² Some mss. read *lift themselves up* against Thee

^b Ex. 20:7; Deut. 5:11

^a 2 Chr. 19:2; Ps. 26:5; 31:6

^b Ps. 119:158

^a Job 31:6; Ps. 26:2

^b Ps. 7:9; Prov. 17:3; Jer. 11:20; 1 Thess. 2:4

¹ Lit., *way of pain*

^a Ps. 146:9; Prov. 15:9; 28:10; Jer. 25:5; 36:3

^b Ps. 5:8; 143:10

^c Ps. 16:11

ⁱ *The New American Standard Bible*, (La Habra, California: The Lockman Foundation) 1977.