

Behold Our God! Reflections in Psalms

Psalm 139

"God is Omniscient (All-Knowing)" – August 13, 2023



Introduction

The overarching theme of this psalm is God's divine ability to know all things - to know everything about "me" personally. (Vs. [1](#), [23](#)) David was in awe of this extraordinary truth.

Have you ever wondered if God knowing all about you is a good thing? How do you feel about that thought? If all the details of your actions and thoughts were displayed and if we are fully known by others the way God knows us, we would most certainly be ashamed and embarrassed. How does God see us? What is the psalmist's perception of God's knowledge of us?

Sermon Outline

1. Behold the all-knowing God. Vs. 1-16
2. Respond to God with delight and devotion. Vs. 17-24

Read & Discuss

1. Read vs. 1 - 16

God knows us fully and completely from beginning to end. He knows every emotion, doubt and fear. He knows every word before we even speak. He knows our disposition in public and in secret. God never misunderstands, misjudges or wrongly interprets us. Does the thought that God knows ALL about you give you pause? Why? Why not?

God knows His creation intimately. God's knowledge is so exhaustive that there are no physical bounds. ([Vs. 7-12](#)) There is no place that God's knowledge doesn't reach. There is no place to be hidden from God's watchful view and care. Did you ever think you could hide from God?

God not only knows and sees, but He is also actively at work. ([Vs. 13-15](#)) God's work in the formation of new life is tender, loving, skillful and beautiful. God know and has even formed all the days that a person would live. He formed those days for us. ([Vs. 16](#)) We are never out of God's watchful care. If you've struggled with how you view yourself, how does it help to remember that God formed you in your mother's womb?

Because of your faith in Jesus, God knows you and loves you. He calls you His child. He is with you in the extremes of life and every part of your life is under His watchful care. How do you respond to knowing that God knows you, loves you, and is with you?

God longs for an ever-deepening relationship with Him. The only way to a relationship with God is through Jesus. ([John 14:6](#)) We are all sinners. ([Romans 3:23](#)) But God sent His Son to restore a way to have a relationship with Him. ([Romans 5:8](#)) Have you trusted Christ? If you have, what are you doing to cultivate a relationship with God? Do you have a regular time of Bible reading and prayer?

2. Read vs. 17 - 24

The psalmist responds with an outpouring of delight at God's knowledge of him. A natural response to God's knowledge of you should be awe, courage, and delight.

The awe of God's knowledge of our every thought and deed should remind us that there is no overt sin worth the guilt and shame of subjecting God to its viewing. Let this reality be a deterrent from sinful habits and thoughts that you may falsely believe are done in secret.

However, be of good courage because God sees and knows our confession of sin and disposition of repentance. If we confess our sin, He will forgive. ([1 John 1:9](#)) Do you struggle with guilt and shame of sin? Do you think that God will give up on you? Do you believe that God is forgiving and will accept your confession and repentance? You do not need to live in the fear of God's wrath. Give your life to the glory of God. Step into the broken and hard places of life, taking the gospel to those who don't know Jesus. You can do this with courage and conviction because you are known by the holy God.

In the end, what you now know by faith will be known by sight. You will delight in Him. In responding to this rightly now, on that day our hearts will overflow with delight.

Then in [verses 19-24](#), the psalmist is expressing his devotion to God. He asks God to eliminate evil in the world, and in his own heart. The wicked are marked by unrepentant sin. We are not to hate sinners but have a divine dissatisfaction with the wicked ways and dispositions that exist in a fallen world. We are not to be identified with the wicked. We should hate the things that God hates, being concerned for the glory of God and upholding the honor of His name.

The only response is to humbly surrender to the God who knows it all. We can trust Him fully. God has made us worthy through Jesus.

Prayer of Response

1) After hearing God's Word, what sin do I need to *confess*? From what do I need to *repent*?

2) How should my life be lived this week based on what I have heard? What should I *understand*, *believe*, *desire*, or *do*?

Spend time praying together in response to God's word asking for His help and greater faith to follow Him in the week to come. If you missed the sermon on Sunday or would like to listen again, visit our website at fbcum.org

Next week's sermon text: we turn to Genesis 38:1-30 "All Things for Good"
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