

# COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH

## PSALMS-LESSON 31

WEEK OF May 10–May 15

### Omniscient, Omnipresent and Omnipotent Yahweh Cares For His Redeemed PSALM 139

**Psalm 139**, a Psalm of David, is intensely personal. In this psalm of worship and praise of the Lord, David expresses a deep personal knowledge and reverence of God and an intimacy where he refers to the Lord as “You” and to himself as “me”.

“**Psalm 139** has both head and heart. It is strongly theological, dealing with such important doctrines as God's omniscience (it is probably the weightiest part of the Bible for discussing God's omniscience), omnipresence and omnipotence; but it is also wonderfully personal, because it speaks of these attributes of God in ways that impact the psalmist and ourselves.” [Psalms, Vol. 3](#), James Montgomery Boice, pg 1201

Alexander MacLaren wrote, “Not mere omniscience, but a knowledge which knows him altogether, not mere omnipresence, but an omnipresence which he can nowhere escape, not mere creative power, but a power which shaped him, fill and thrill the psalmist's soul.” *Id.* pg. 1201

As we study and meditate upon this psalm, we should be humbled, comforted, encouraged to live for God and deeply worshipful.

#### Read Psalm 139:1-6 Praise of God For His Omniscience

1. When you consider **verse 1**, what is your initial reaction to this truth? Why would some find this threatening while others find this comforting?
2. In **verse 2-4** what are the important aspects of God's knowledge of us?
3. How does the psalmist express the care of God in **verse 5**?
4. In **verse 6**, how does David sum up his consideration of God's intimate knowledge of him? How does Paul express a similar thought in **Romans 11:33**?

“The unique quality of the knowledge possessed by God is perfection...Arthur W. Pink wrote, ‘God knows everything; everything possible, everything actual; all events, all creatures, of the past, the present, and the future. He is perfectly acquainted with every detail in the life of every being in heaven, in earth, and in hell... Nothing escapes His notice, nothing can be hidden from Him nothing is forgotten by Him.... He never errs, never changes, never overlooks anything.’ *Id.* pg.1202

#### Read Psalm 139:7-12 Praise of God For His Omnipresence

5. In **verse 7** what are the questions David asks to introduce this section addressing God's omnipresence?

6. In **verses 8, 9 and 11** what is David's purpose in pointing to these possibilities? What does he conclude in **verses 10 and 12**?
7. How does God's omnipresence provide you with confidence and rest? When you encounter great difficulties and consider yourself alone how does God's presence provide comfort to you?

### **Read Psalm 139:13-18 Praise of the Omnipotent God**

"John Stott expressed this connection when he wrote, "God's omniscience, which in the previous section has been attributed to his omnipresence, is now attributed to his omnipotence. God can search man out not only because He sees him, but because He made him." [Psalms, Vol.3](#), James Montgomery Boice, pg 1208

8. In **verses 13, 15 and 16a**, how does David describe God's intimate, creative power and provision in David's life?
9. How does David express God's foreknowledge of him in **verse 16b**? How does that truth humble you and deepen your love for God?
10. From **verses 14, 17 and 18**, what is David's response to God's creative work in his life? What is your response to this truth?

### **Read Psalm 139:19-22 David's Expression of Loyalty to His Lord**

11. How does David respond to those who hate and oppose Yahweh?

"This separation does not mean that David never had anything to do with sinful people; he himself was one. It only means that he did not want to be with those who were openly sparked by evil over hatching evil actions. So taken was he with the greatness of God that he wanted nothing to endanger his relationship to God." [Psalms, Vol.3](#), pg 1211

### **Read Psalm 139:23-24 David's Concluding Prayer**

12. After thoughtful consideration of the truths of **Psalm 139**, what are David's four concluding requests of Yahweh?
13. Will you memorize these final two verses, and consistently make these requests of God part of your daily prayer time?

"If you are serious about Christlikeness, you must expect His investigation to offer painful but necessary insights at times. Seek His diagnosis, prognosis, and prescription; if not, you will wander from His path. Seek His help today." [A Thankful Journey](#), Carl A. Hargrove, Ps. 139