

Our Thoughts Psalm 139

Unlike previous teachings, led by one person, this teaching is based on the input of all the Fellowship attendees.

Using one Biblical chapter, the Fellowship will dissect and analyze the chapter, hopefully providing new insights to all that are present.

Due to the immediate nature of tonight's teaching, to receive the greatest understanding of this teaching, please view the Zoom video for tonight.

Each verse will be analyzed while being displayed in both the King James Version (KJV) and the Jewish Study Bible Version (JSB).

However, each Fellowship member is free to use their own version of the Bible in making their analysis.



Psalm 139 is part of the Ketuvim (בְתוּבִים) - the third and final section of the Hebrew Bible. This section of the Old Testament is usually titled "Writings" or "Hagiographa". It follows after the Torah ("Instructions") and the Nevi'im ("Prophets").

There are 24 verses in Chapter 139.

The Book of Psalms is composed of individual songs, hymns, or poems, each of which is a "Psalm" in and of itself. These works contain a wide variety of themes. Some Psalms focus on praising and worshipping Yahovah.

Psalms cry out in anguish over the pain of life. Still other Psalms look forward to the coming of the Messiah. While some Psalms are related, each has its own historical and biblical context.

Psalm 139 expresses the infinite knowledge or omniscience of Yahovah. This extends to everything a person does, thinks, and says, even before those actions occur.

As stated elsewhere in the Bible, Yahovah's mind is far beyond that of any person. This is both a source of comfort for those who honor Yahovah and a dire warning to those who defy Him.

Psalm 139 also declares Yahovah's omnipresence: His existence and influence in all places and at all times. But no matter what a person does, they cannot escape Yahovah.

Those who try to run from Yahovah, as Jonah did will find it an impossible task. Yahovah will be with you, no matter where you go or where life leads you.

The psalm celebrates Yahovah's incredible power and creativity: His omnipotence. With the design of the human body, even before the moment of conception, Yahovah is at work in forming a person.

Even in the womb, each person is already an image-bearer of Yahovah, and an example of His masterful creative work.

Finally, the psalm explores Yahovah's justice. David trusts Yahovah and celebrates His blessings, but he is also affected by the sins of those who hate Yahovah. David sees Yahovah's enemies as his enemies and prays for Yahovah to destroy those who are evil.

The psalm pleads with Yahovah to deal with the wicked while at the same time, recognizing that everyone is vulnerable to sin. And as sinners, we need to ask Yahovah to search our hearts and minds, and lead us in the right path.

And now, Our Thoughts: Psalm 139

- ¹ O lord, thou hast searched me, and known me. (KJV)
- ¹ For the leader. Of David. A psalm. 0 LoRD, You have examined me and know me. (JSB)

² Thou knowest my downsitting and mine uprising, thou understandest my thought

When I sit down or stand up You know it; You discern my thoughts from afar. (JSB)

afar off. (KJV)

³ Thou compassest my path and my lying down, and art acquainted with all my ways. (KJV)

³ You observe my walking and reclining, and are familiar with all my ways. (JSB)

- ⁴ For there is not a word in my tongue, but, lo, O Lord, thou knowest it altogether. (KJV)
 - ⁴ There is not a word on my tongue but that You, 0 LoRD, know it well. (JSB)

⁵ Thou hast beset me behind and before, and laid thine hand upon me. (KJV)

⁵ You hedge me before and behind; You lay Your hand upon me. (JSB)

⁶ Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high, I cannot attain unto it. (KJV)

6 It is beyond my knowledge; it is a mystery; I cannot fathom it. (JSB)

- ⁷ Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence? (KJV)
- Where can I escape from Your spirit? Where can I flee from Your presence? (JSB)

8 If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou art there. (KJV)

8 If I ascend to heaven, You are there; if I descend to Sheol, You are there too. (JSB)

⁹ If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea; (KJV)

⁹ If I take wing with the dawn to come to rest on the western horizon, (JSB)

¹⁰ Even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me. (KJV)

¹⁰ even there Your hand will be guiding me, Your right hand will be holding me fast. (JSB)

- ¹¹ If I say, Surely the darkness shall cover me; even the night shall be light about me. (KJV)
- ¹¹ If I say, "Surely darkness will conceal me, night will provide me with cover," (JSB)

12 Yea, the darkness hideth not from thee; but the night shineth as the day: the darkness and the light are both alike to thee. (KJV)

¹² darkness is not dark for You; night is as light as day; darkness and light are the same. (JSB)

