

January 16, 2022

Psalm 139 Revised Standard Version

The Inescapable God

To the choirmaster. A Psalm of David.

- ¹ O LORD, thou hast searched me and known me!
² Thou knowest when I sit down and when I rise up;
 thou discernest my thoughts from afar.
³ Thou searchest out my path and my lying down,
 and art acquainted with all my ways.
⁴ Even before a word is on my tongue,
 lo, O LORD, thou knowest it altogether.
⁵ Thou dost beset me behind and before,
 and layest thy hand upon me.
⁶ Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
 it is high, I cannot attain it.
⁷ Whither shall I go from thy Spirit?
 Or whither shall I flee from thy presence?
⁸ If I ascend to heaven, thou art there!
 If I make my bed in Sheol, thou art there!
⁹ If I take the wings of the morning
 and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,
¹⁰ even there thy hand shall lead me,
 and thy right hand shall hold me.
¹¹ If I say, "Let only darkness cover me,
 and the light about me be night,"
¹² even the darkness is not dark to thee,
 the night is bright as the day;
 for darkness is as light with thee.
¹³ For thou didst form my inward parts,
 thou didst knit me together in my mother's womb.
¹⁴ I praise thee, for thou art fearful and wonderful.
 Wonderful are thy works!
 Thou knowest me right well;

¹⁵ my frame was not hidden from thee,
when I was being made in secret,
intricately wrought in the depths of the earth.

¹⁶ Thy eyes beheld my unformed substance;
in thy book were written, every one of them,
the days that were formed for me,
when as yet there was none of them.

¹⁷ How precious to me are thy thoughts, O God!
How vast is the sum of them!

¹⁸ If I would count them, they are more than the sand.
When I awake, I am still with thee.

¹⁹ O that thou wouldst slay the wicked, O God,
and that men of blood would depart from me,

²⁰ men who maliciously defy thee,
who lift themselves up against thee for evil!

²¹ Do I not hate them that hate thee, O LORD?
And do I not loathe them that rise up against thee?

²² I hate them with perfect hatred;
I count them my enemies.

²³ Search me, O God, and know my heart!
Try me and know my thoughts!

²⁴ And see if there be any wicked way in me,
and lead me in the way everlasting!