

AN AMAZING PICTURE OF GOD (Psalm 139)

1. The omniscience of God (Psalm 139:1-6).

- a. The word omniscience is from the Latin “omni” meaning “all” and “sciencia” meaning “knowledge”.
 - i. Literally it means “all knowledge”.
 - ii. Dictionary.com has the following definitions:
 - (1) The quality or state of being omniscient.
 - (2) Infinite knowledge.
 - (3) God.
- b. David begins the psalm by pointing out how God knows everything about him.
 - i. The word “searched” is interesting.
 - ii. Br. Wayne Jackson wrote this about it: “The word “searched” means to pierce or bore — as one would bore a hole into the ground. David pictures God as having performed an excavation on him. It has been absolutely thorough.”
 - iii. David understood that God knew everything about him.
- c. He goes on to write that God knows where he is, what he is saying, and what he is thinking.
 - i. God knows all that there is about us.
 - ii. He even knows the meaning of what we say, whether or not we are being hypocritical.
- d. The Bible is full of the teaching of the omniscience of God.
 - i. Psalm 147:5.
 - ii. Hebrews 4:13.
 - iii. 1 John 3:18-20.
 - iv. Think of all the things God knew.
 - (1) He knew Jeremiah and Paul in the womb and what they would do.
 - (2) He knew Cyrus 150 years before Cyrus was born.
 - (3) Jesus knew the thoughts of those around Him.
 - v. Example after example could be given of God’s omniscience.
- e. God’s omniscience should help us as Christians.
 - i. We serve a God who knows us as individuals.
 - (1) Jesus said He knows His sheep (John 10:14).
 - (2) Peter told Jesus “You know all things. You know I love you” (John 21:17).
 - (3) He knows our trials (Psalm 56:8).
 - (4) He knows our needs (Matthew 6:8).
 - (5) He knows our sin and our need for a Savior.
 - ii. This should cause us to want to be right with Him.
 - (1) David said that God knew everything about him and God knows everything about us, even the bad.
 - (2) God knows our sin (Psalm 90:8), so we understand we can’t hide anything from Him.
 - (3) This should move us to be right with Him.
 - iii. This allows us to know that God will do what is right at the judgment because He has all the facts (Ecclesiastes 12:14).

2.The omnipresence of God (Psalm 139:7-12).

- a.Omnipresence means “present everywhere at the same time”.
- b.David understood that there was nowhere He could go from the presence of God.
- c.He asks a rhetorical question about where could he go to get away from God.
 - i.He knew God was everywhere.
 - ii.No place was out of the sight and presence of God.
- d.If it were possible to go to the heights of heaven, God would be there.
- e.If it were possible to go to the depths of the earth, God would be there.
- f.If it were possible to grow wings and fly to the farthest point in the sea from land, God would be there.
- g.If it were possible to go to the blackest, darkest spot on earth, David realized that he could not hide from God, because neither darkness nor light are hindrance to God.
- h.Again, the Bible plainly teaches the omnipresence of God.
 - i.Jeremiah 23:24.
 - ii.Solomon said...(1 Kings 8:27).
 - iii.Proverbs 15:3.
 - iv.Acts 17:27.
- i.God’s omnipresence should help Christians:
 - i.Whenever we are hurting or being hurt, God is there with us.
 - ii.It will strengthen us in serving God when we realize that He is there with us.
 - (1)Matthew 28:19-20.
 - (2)Hebrews 13:5.
 - iii.It will encourage us to live more holy lives.
 - (1)We’ve often heard something akin to the question, “Would you do that if Jesus were standing here with you?”
 - (2)The truth is, God is present and sees all.
 - iv.We are reminded that those who are sinning against us or abusing us for being Christians are seen by God.
 - (1)Paul told the Thessalonians...(2 Thessalonians 1:7).
 - (2)Romans 12:19 - how could God repay unless He knew of the offense?

3.The omnipotence of God (Psalm 139:13-18).

- a.Omnipotence is from the Latin “omnipotencia”, which literally means “almighty power”.
 - i.Again, one of the definitions for it is God.
 - ii.This word seems to have been exclusively used in reference to God.
- b.David pointed out the almighty power of God by means of his own creation.
 - i.He pointed to God forming him in the womb.
 - ii.David understood that God creating him, and all humans, was an act of infinite power.
 - iii.Before he was fully formed God knew how his body would be put together.
- c.Such great power is something awesome and amazing to contemplate.
- d.This is not to say that God can do anything.

- i. God will do nothing that goes against His will.
 - ii. God will do nothing that is immoral.
 - iii. God won't put a square peg in a round hole.
- e. As with the other two attributes, the Bible plainly teaches the omnipotence of God.
 - i. Isaiah 40:28.
 - ii. Ephesians 3:20.
 - iii. Job 9:4-10.
 - iv. He is the Creator of the world (Genesis 1).
 - v. He is the Sustainer of the world (Hebrews 1:3).
- f. His omnipotence should help Christians.
 - i. We don't serve a weak, impotent God that cannot hear or help.
 - ii. It should move us to love God even more (Ephesians 1:18-20).
 - iii. He helps us accomplish His will (Philippians 4:13).
 - iv. It moves us to trust Him more (Philippians 4:19 - do we believe He is powerful enough to supply our needs?).
 - v. It should cause us to fear Him, knowing He has the power to destroy both body and soul (Luke 12:4-5).

Idea for the outline came from an article by Wayne Jackson