PSALMS 139: 1-18 Somebody Bigger Than You And I 8/11/2024

Two clear aspects to God's works and nature:

1. The vastness of His creation.

Ex. Psalms 19:1 "The heavens are telling of the glory of God and their expanse are declaring the works of His hands"

2. His knowledge of the minute details of that creation. Every thought and motive of each creature and person.

Question: Is it an unattainable goal to know Him, or to please Him?

Question: Since He knows every detail of all things, especially our thought life, is that a dreadful thing, a threating thing, or <u>the greatest comfort you could ever know?</u>

Ex. Luke 5:4-11 - "Depart from me I am a sinful man!"

Question: Did Peter continue to feel this way, i.e., just a sinful man who must always keep his face in the dirt with no joy? A man with sin and regrets and no way to be transformed, renewed, vibrant in his love for God, and comfort in deeply feeling God's love for him?

J. B. PHILLIPS: Managing Director- P.40- "Your God Is Too Small"

STEVEN CURTIS CHAPMAN- "His Eyes" Line 3 and chorus

Some Commentary titles for Psalms 139: "Honest To God"- "No Escape, Yet No Regrets" – "Too Wonderful For Me"- "Adoration Of The Omniscient And Omnipresent One."

Four things we learn in Psalms 139: 1-18

Holiness: Perfect in all things

Omniscient: Knows all things

Omnipresence: Everywhere at the same time

Sovereignty: Controls the final outcome of all things

For David it is like, "God knows me! God is with me at all times! God has control of my life and my destiny! A perfectly holy God wants a relationship with me and loves me!"

Psalms 139 outline:

V. 1-12 God's present knowledge

V. 13-15 God's past knowledge

V. 16 God's *future* knowledge

Ex. C.S.Lewis- "God:Reality" / Miracles, ch. 11

"It is always shocking to meet life where we thought we were alone. "Look out!" we cry, "It's alive!" And therefore this is the point at which so many draw back-I would have done so myself if I could- and proceeded no further with Christianity. An "impersonal god" — well and good. A subjective god of beauty, truth and goodness, inside our own heads- better still. A formless life-force surging through us, a vast power which we can tap- best of all. But God Himself, alive, pulling at the other end of the cord, perhaps approaching at an infinite speed, the hunter, king, husband- that is quite another matter. There comes a moment when the children who have been playing at burglars hush suddenly; was that a real footstep in the hall? There comes a moment when people who have been dabbling in Christianity suddenly draw back. Supposing we really found Him? We never meant it to come to that! Worst still, supposing He had found us?"

Final Thoughts: Three of the most dreadful and yet most comforting passages:

Luke 5: 1-11 Philippians 2:12-13 Hebrews 4:12-16