

Psalm 139

"Man's Response to the Infinity of Yahweh Elohim"

(For the choir director. A Psalm of David.)

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A1 THE OMNISCIENCE OF YAHWEH 139:1-6

B1 The Psalmist's Thesis: Yahweh's thorough knowledge of him: {1} O LORD,
You have searched me and known *me*. **139:1b**

B2 Instances of Yahweh's Exhaustive Knowledge of Him 139:2-4

C1 Of His Movements 139:2a

D1 {2} You know when I sit down

D2 and when I rise up;

C2 Of His Thoughts: You understand my thought from afar. 139:2b

C3 Of His Activity and His Rest: {3} You scrutinize my path and my lying
down, 139:3a

C4 Of All His Ways: And are intimately acquainted with all my ways. 139:3b

C5 Of All His Speech Beforehand! {4} Even before there is a word on my
tongue, Behold, O LORD, You know it all. 139:4

B3 The Psalmist's Reactions to Yahweh's Knowledge 139:5-6

C1 His Feeling Hemmed In: {5} You have enclosed me behind and before,
And laid Your hand upon me. 139:5

C2 His Incomprehension: {6} *Such* knowledge is too wonderful for me; It is
too high, I cannot attain to it. 139:6

A2 THE OMNIPRESENCE OF YAHWEH 139:7-12

B1 The Psalmist's Thesis -- His Inability to Escape God's Presence: {7} Where can
I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? **139:7**

B2 Spacial Instances of Yahweh's Omnipresence 139:8-10

C1 The Height of Heaven: {8} If I ascend to heaven, You are there; 139:8

C2 The Depth of the Netherworld: If I make my bed in Sheol, behold, You are
there.

C3 The Remoteness of the East: {9} If I take the wings of the dawn, 139:9

C4 The Remoteness of the West: If I dwell in the remotest part of the sea, ¹

C5 The Consoling Application 139:10

D1 {10} Even there Your hand will lead me,

D2 And Your right hand will lay hold of me.

B3 Substantival Instances of Yahweh's Omnipresence: The Cloak of Darkness 139:11-12

C1 The Hypothetical Covering of Utter Darkness 139:11

D1 Overwhelmed by darkness: {11} If I say, "Surely the darkness will overwhelm me,

D2 Unaided by any light: And the light around me will be night,"

C2 The Analysis of Darkness 139:12

D1 Yahweh's imperviousness to darkness: {12} Even the darkness is not dark to You,

D2 Yahweh's ability function in darkness equally as well as in light

E1 And the night is as bright as the day.

E2 Darkness and light are alike *to You*.

A3 THE OMNIPOTENCE OF YAHWEH (As Illustrated in His Sovereign Creation of the Psalmist and Superintendence of His Development in Utter Darkness) 139:13-16

B1 The Psalmist's Acknowledgment of Yahweh's Creation of Him in (the Darkness of) His Mother's Womb 139:13

C1 {13} For You formed my inward parts;

C2 You wove me in my mother's womb.

B2 The Psalmist's Acknowledgment of Yahweh's Craftsmanship 139:14-15

C1 His Praise of Yahweh's Craftsmanship 139:14

D1 {14} I will give thanks to You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made;

D2 Wonderful are Your works, And my soul knows it very well.

¹ Psalm 139:9 - sea: Most likely referring to the Mediterranean Sea, which stretched far to the west of Israel.

- C2 His Description of Yahweh's Craftsmanship 139:15
 - D1 Yahweh's Omnipresence penetrating the obscure recesses of the womb 139:15
 - E1 His penetration of secrecy
 - F1 {15} My frame was not hidden from You,
 - F2 When I was made in secret,
 - E2 His skillful work in difficult working conditions: *And skillfully wrought in the depths of the earth;*²

B3 The Psalmist's Acknowledgment of Yahweh's Omniscient Sovereignty 139:16

- C1 His Awareness of His Unformed Being: {16} Your eyes have seen my unformed substance;
- C2 His Superintendence of Destiny
 - D1 The certainty of his future: *And in Your book were all written The days that were ordained for me,*³
 - D2 The pre-temporal nature of his future: When as yet there was not one of them.

A4 THE HUMILITY OF MAN: The Psalmist's Reactions to Yahweh Elohim's Infinite Ability and Power 139:17-24

- B1 His Valuing of Elohim's Thoughts: {17} How precious also are Your thoughts to me, O God! 139:17a**
- B2 His Overwhelmed Reaction to Elohim's Stupendous Intellect 139:17b-18**
 - C1 How vast is the sum of them! 139:17b
 - C2 {18} If I should count them, they would outnumber the sand. 139:18a
- B3 His Comfort: When I awake, I am still with You. 139:18b**
- B4 His Desire to Protect Yahweh Elohim's Holiness 139:19-24**
 - C1 From the Evil of Others 139:19-22
 - D1 His request for Elohim to eliminate the wicked: {19} O that You would slay the wicked, O God; 139:19a
 - D2 His demand to be undefiled by murderers: Depart from me, therefore, men of bloodshed. 139:19b

² Psalm 139:15 - in the depths of the earth: A metaphor for the womb of one's mother.

³ Psalm 139:16 - the days that were ordained *for me*: God has all our days planned out far in advance. He is the Supreme Sovereign.

- D3 His justification for demanding the demise of the wicked: their blasphemy against Elohim 139:20
 - E1 {20} For they speak against You wickedly,
 - E2 And Your enemies take *Your name* in vain.
- D4 His hatred of the wicked 139:21-22
 - E1 His justification for hating them 139:21
 - F1 Their hatred of Yahweh: {21} Do I not hate those who hate You, O LORD?
 - F2 Their rebellion against Yahweh: And do I not loathe those who rise up against You?
 - E2 The intensity of his hatred 139:22
 - F1 {22} I hate them with the utmost hatred;
 - F2 They have become my enemies.
- C2 From His Own Potential Evil 139:23-24
 - D1 His request for omniscient Elohim to search him
 - E1 His heart: {23} Search me, O God, and know my heart; 139:23a
 - E2 His thoughts: Try me and know my anxious thoughts; 139:23b
 - D2 His request for omnipresent Elohim to ferret out any harmful way: {24} And see if there be any hurtful way in me, 139:24
 - D3 His request for omnipotent Elohim to lead him: And lead me in the everlasting way.

Expanded Analysis of Psalm 139
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