

VISITING THE PSALMS

Part Nine—Psalm 139

Scripture: Psalm 139:1-24

SUNDAY AUGUST 16, 2009

WORD STUDIES

V. 3 Discern—sift, winnow

V. 5 Hand—Palm

V. 7 Presence—Face

V. 13 For Thou hast possessed my reins

(kidneys, seat of the emotions) (KJV)

For You created my inmost being (NIV)

V. 15 frame—bones

V. 15 Woven together—Variegate, mix colors

V. 16 Unformed body—embryo, fetus

V. 16 Thine eyes did see my substance, yet being unperfect; and in Thy book all *my members* were written, *which* in continuance were fashioned, when *as yet there was* none of them. (KJV)

...your eyes saw my unformed body. All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be. (NIV)

V. 17 Thoughts—Purpose, aim, thought

V. 23 Thoughts—Disquieting thoughts, anxious thoughts, cogitations

THEMES OF PSALM 139

1. O LORD, YOU KNOW ME INSIDE OUT . YOU KNOW:

- A. My every MOVE.
- B. My every THOUGHT.
- C. My BEHAVIOR PATTERNS,
habits and associations.
- D. My every WORD.
- E. My HISTORY and ORIGINS.
- F. My MAKEUP and DESIGN.
- G. My PAST, PRESENT and FUTURE.
- H. My INTENTS and MOTIVES.

2. O LORD, YOU HAVE ME COVERED- YOU'RE EVERYWHERE.

- A. You have me hemmed in—FRONT and BACK.
- B. You have laid Your HAND on me.
- C. I can't hide from You anywhere:
 - 1. Not in HEAVEN.
 - 2. Not in the depths (HELL).
 - 3. Not in the DISTANT EAST.
 - 4. Not in the DISTANT WEST.
 - 5. Not under cover of DARKNESS.

3. O LORD, YOUR POWER AND ABILITY ARE WITHOUT LIMIT. WHEN I CONSIDER:

- A. Your unfathomable KNOWLEDGE;
- B. Your imponderable THOUGHTS;
- C. Your limitless POWER; and
- D. Your marvelous WORKS. . .

4. MY HEART IS THOROUGHLY:

- A. OVERWHELMED. v. 6
- B. AWESTRUCK. v. 14
- C. HUMBLLED. v. 6
- D. REASSURED. v. 5,10, 18
- E. SOBERED. vs. 7-12
- F. Moved to PRAISE. v. 14
- G. Moved to DEVOTION and full SURRENDER. vs. 23,24

RESPONSIVE READING

Psalm 139:1-4,7-18,23,24

O LORD, You have searched me and You know me. You know when I sit and when I rise; You perceive my thoughts from afar.

You discern my going out and my lying down; You are familiar with all my ways. Before a word is on my tongue You know it completely, O LORD.

Where can I go from Your Spirit? Where can I flee from Your presence? If I go up to the heavens, You are there; if I make my bed in the depths, You are there.

If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there Your hand will guide me, Your right hand will hold me fast.

If I say, "Surely the darkness will hide me and the light become night around me," even the darkness will not be dark to You; the night will shine like the day, for darkness is as light to You.

For You created my inmost being; You knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise You because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

My frame was not hidden from You when I was made in the secret place. When I was woven together in the depths of the earth, Your eyes saw my unformed body.

All the days ordained for me were written in Your book before one of them came to be.

How precious to me are Your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them! Were I to count them, they would outnumber the grains of sand. When I awake, I am still with You.

Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.