

ULTRA-PERCEPTION

Psalm 139

**Tonight we want to consider our ultra-perceptive God
who knows us perfectly.**

I. THE RECORD OF A POWERFUL GOD (1-16)

A. GOD IS ALL-KNOWING (1-6) > Omniscient

1. The Proposition (1) > You know me in every detail
2. The Details (2-4)
 - a. My position (2a)
 - b. My pre-thoughts (2b)
 - c. My path (3)
 - d. My pronouncements (4)
3. The Reality (5) > I'm kept in your hand
4. The Response (6) > We cannot comprehend His comprehension!

B. GOD IS EVER-PRESENT (7-12) > Omnipresent

1. No matter where I go (7-8)
2. No matter how I go (9-10)
3. No matter what happens (11-12)

C. GOD IS ALL-POWERFUL (13-16) > Omnipotent

1. Knitting (13, 15) > "Formed" and "skillfully wrought"
2. Covering (13b) > Shielded in the protection of a mother's amniotic fluid!
3. Seeing (15-16) > My skeleton (15a), embryonic state (16a) and lifespan (16b)

II. SOME REFLECTIONS ABOUT A PERSONAL GOD (1-18)

- This Psalm speaks of the Lord and me in very personal ways

A. GOD IS INVOLVED WITH ME (1-6, 13)

1. The Psalmist applies the grandest glories of God's greatness to himself
 - a. Not: God knows everything
 - b. But: God knows me! (1)
2. Another example
 - a. Not: God understands things
 - b. But: God understands me! (2)
3. A final example
 - a. Not: God makes things
 - b. But: God made me! (13)

B. GOD IS NEAR ME! (7-12)

1. Always with me (7-8)
2. Holding me (9-10)
3. Comforting me (11-12)

C. GOD IMPRESSES ME (14-16)

1. The fact of our custom creation and birth are calculated to call forth our praise! (14a)
2. God's involvement wows me! (14b)
3. God's lab amazes me (15)
4. God's ability overwhelms me (16)

D. GOD INSPIRES ME (17-18)

1. Just considering His actions amazes me How much more His thoughts!
2. His thoughts about me are precious (17)
 - Like rereading a special greeting card - See Jeremiah 29:11
3. God's thoughts are relevant (18) > Still with me each new day

III. **THE RESPONSE TO A PRAISEWORTHY GOD** (19-24)

A. PETITION (19-20)

1. Slay the wicked ... An imprecatory prayer
 - a. Might they depart from me ... (19b)
 - b. Who disrespect You (20)
2. Show Your power
 - God's power can be experienced as precious (17) or dangerous (19), but it will be experienced

B. ASSOCIATION (21-22)

1. God's enemies are mine as well
2. I'll stand with God and separate from scorners - cf. Ps. 1:1-3
3. When we are loyal to God we must loathe His enemies

C. INVESTIGATION (23-24)

1. Lest I've overstepped
 - It is wise to ask God to reveal if the hatred for His enemies (v. 21) has been overstated or become sinful
2. The disgust with God's enemies is followed by a wise mistrust of himself
 - a. He prays that he'll not become self-deluded as God's enemies are
 - b. There is a valuable lesson here:
 - 1) Don't focus on the enemies without (those who do wickedly)
 - 2) But consider the enemy within (your own heart, affections and ways)
3. A passionate prayer for purity
 - Commanding God to explore the deepest recesses of his being

4. Apply God's great omniscience to yourself
 - a. Pray: "Lord God in light of all You know and see, look within me and search out any wickedness that cleaves to me"
 - b. We, who do not fully know ourselves, should submit to the God who does!

CONCLUSION:

Who do you know and what does it matter?

Consider the God who knows you best.

- Admire Him: He is powerful
- Praise Him: He is personal
- Submit to Him: He is perceptive