

The Psalms
(Lesson 18)

Introduction:

1. Jesus indicated in Luke 24:44 that the Psalms are part of the Old Testament Scriptures.
2. Since this is the case, we need to study them carefully because they *"were written for our learning"* (Romans 15:4).
3. This lesson is a study of Psalm 139 in which David emphasized two of God's attributes:
 - a. His "omniscience" [God is all knowing]
 - b. His "omnipresence" [God is present everywhere].
4. Reflecting upon God's omniscience and omnipresence led David to do two things.
 - a. He offered praise to God.
 - b. He wanted his life to be right with God.

Discussion:

- I. (vs.1-6) DAVID EXPRESSED HOW WELL GOD KNEW HIM
 - A. In these verses,:
 1. David made a general statement about God's personal knowledge of him (vs.1)
 2. David stated that God knew his movements, his thoughts, and his words (vs.2-4)
 3. David mentioned how God had blessed and influenced him (vs.5)
 4. David was overwhelmed by God's knowledge (vs.6, 17-18).
 - B. Application:
 1. The Scriptures teach that God is in heaven.
 - a. Matthew 6:9
 - b. Mark 16:19
 2. Although God is in heaven, we must not think He is so distant that He cannot see us or He is not aware of our actions.
 - a. Isaiah 29:15; 40:27
 - b. Ezekiel 8:12
 - c. Hebrews 4:13
- II. (vs.7-16) DAVID UNDERSTOOD THAT HE WAS ALWAYS IN GOD'S PRESENCE
 - A. In these verses,:
 1. David showed that God was always present, regardless of his location and the time of day (vs.7-12)
 2. David acknowledged being in God's presence while in his mother's womb (vs.13-16)
 3. David was led to praise God (vs.14a).
 - B. Application:
 1. Fleeing from God's presence is impossible (Jonah 1:3; 2:1-2).
 2. The Lord will not leave His followers (Hebrews 13:5b).
- III. (vs.19-24) DAVID WANTED HIS LIFE TO BE RIGHT WITH GOD
 - A. In these verses,:
 1. David wanted to avoid wicked people (vs.19-22)
 - a. He realized that God knows the deeds of wicked people and that God will punish them.
 - b. This led David to consider such people to be his enemies.
 2. David asked God to search him, try him, correct him, and lead him (vs.23-24).
 - B. Application:
 1. The Lord wants His people to avoid evil associates (1 Corinthians 15:33).
 2. The Lord wants His people to examine themselves (2 Corinthians 13:5a).
 3. The Lord judges the hearts of His people.
 - a. Proverbs 21:2
 - b. Jeremiah 17:10