



Where is God When I Need Him Now?

Psalm 139

Message Notes by Dr. Mark Platt

Psalm 139, is a personal prayer of David as he struggled with adversity, hardship, loss, chaos, and danger. It was a time when David felt quite alone. Perhaps you know the feeling? When we go through hard times, we think we are alone. Psalm 139 says God is with us everywhere and everyplace. From this psalm, we learn **four facts** that demonstrate how close God really is to you:

I. God knows everything about you

(verses 1-4)

1. God knows everything you do *“know when I sit and when I rise”*
2. God knows everything you think *“perceive my thoughts from afar”*
3. God knows everywhere you go *“my going out and my lying down”*
4. God knows everything you are *“you are familiar with all my ways”*
5. God knows everything you will say *“Before a word is on my tongue”*

II. God is everywhere with you

(verses 5-16a)

1. God is inescapable *“you hem me in”*
2. God is omnipresent *“where can I go from Your Spirit?”*
3. God is creator *“I am fearfully and wonderfully made”*

III. God is sovereign over you

(verses 16b-22)

1. God is sovereign over your life *“all the days are ordained for me”*
2. God is sovereign over your mind *“... your thoughts ...”*
3. God is sovereign over your enemies *“the wicked”*

IV. God is available to you

(verses 23-24)

1. God is available by invitation “*Search me and know*”
2. God is available by surrender “*See if there is any offensive way in me*”
3. God is available by faith “*Lead me in the way everlasting*”

Your Response:

1. According to this psalm, is there a place that God can't be? Paraphrase verses 1 through 6 into your own words. Now mediate on the concepts.
2. What are you concerned about right now? What is God saying to you from this psalm right now?
3. Do you have a fault, a handicap, or a hang-up? Now read verse 14 where it says that you are “*fearfully and wonderfully made.*” Write out what this fact means to your insecurity, flaw, or whatever your struggle is. Keep your notes in your Bible to refer to when you feel insecure again.
4. Read Psalm 139:15-16. What is your response to the idea that God has ordained all of your days? What do you think that His destiny is for your life?
5. Mediate on verses 23 and 24. What sins need to be confessed and repented of in your life? Pray asking God to “*lead you in the way everlasting.*”

Resources:

Experiencing God by Henry Blackaby and Claude King
Psalms (3 volumes) by James Montgomery Boice
Exposition of Psalms by H.C. Leupold
Knowing God by J.I. Packer
Your God is Too Small by J. B. Philipps
The God Who Is There by Francis Schaeffer