

Psalm 139 English Standard Version

Search Me, O God, and Know My Heart

To the choirmaster. A Psalm of David.

- 139** O LORD, you have searched me and known me!
- ² You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
you discern my thoughts from afar.
- ³ You search out my path and my lying down
and are acquainted with all my ways.
- ⁴ Even before a word is on my tongue,
behold, O LORD, you know it altogether.
- ⁵ You hem me in, behind and before,
and lay your hand upon me.
- ⁶ Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is high; I cannot attain it.
- ⁷ Where shall I go from your Spirit?
Or where shall I flee from your presence?
- ⁸ If I ascend to heaven, you are there!
If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there!
- ⁹ If I take the wings of the morning
and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,
¹⁰ even there your hand shall lead me,
and your right hand shall hold me.
- ¹¹ If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me,
and the light about me be night,"
¹² even the darkness is not dark to you;
the night is bright as the day,
for darkness is as light with you.
- ¹³ For you formed my inward parts;
you knitted me together in my mother's womb.
- ¹⁴ I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.^[a]

- Wonderful are your works;
my soul knows it very well.
- 15 My frame was not hidden from you,
when I was being made in secret,
intricately woven in the depths of the earth.
- 16 Your eyes saw my unformed substance;
in your book were written, every one of them,
the days that were formed for me,
when as yet there was none of them.
- 17 How precious to me are your thoughts, O God!
How vast is the sum of them!
- 18 If I would count them, they are more than the sand.
I awake, and I am still with you.
- 19 Oh that you would slay the wicked, O God!
O men of blood, depart from me!
- 20 They speak against you with malicious intent;
your enemies take your name in vain.^[b]
- 21 Do I not hate those who hate you, O LORD?
And do I not loathe those who rise up against you?
- 22 I hate them with complete hatred;
I count them my enemies.
- 23 Search me, O God, and know my heart!
Try me and know my thoughts!^[c]
- 24 And see if there be any grievous way in me,
and lead me in the way everlasting!^[d]

Footnotes

- a. [Psalm 139:14](#) Or *for I am fearfully set apart*
- b. [Psalm 139:20](#) Hebrew lacks *your name*
- c. [Psalm 139:23](#) Or *cares*
- d. [Psalm 139:24](#) Or *in the ancient way* (compare [Jeremiah 6:16](#))

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