



## **Selah: Stop, Look Listen- August 11, 2022**

The Lord be with you.

I love how in Acts chapter 13 it says of David, after David had served the purpose of God in His own generation, he died. Wouldn't we all like that to be said of us someday? That after serving the purpose of God in our generation, we died. I'm always wanting to know more about David, wanting to know what makes David tick, what makes them one of the great persons in all history, and I think that the secret to David's life, that it's really found in the God in whom David believed. The god whom David lived his life for. So, the secret is not really in David, but it's in David's God, and so this week, we're looking at Psalm 139 to learn more about the God and whom David believed, the God in whom David trusted his life, the God whom David praises in the psalm.

We've looked at Verses 1 through 6, where David praises God who knows everything about him and cares about every detail of his life. And there we were looking at God's omniscience, that God knows everything about us. Because God cares about us. Then we looked at Verses 7 through 12, where David is praising God for his omnipresence, that God is everywhere with us. Wherever we go, God is with us to care for us, to support us, to guide us. And in today's scripture, David is putting together God's omniscience and God's omnipresence, to praise God for knowing everything about us and being everywhere with us, even even when we were in our mother's womb. That's the idea here.

And I cannot think of a more important scripture for today's secular culture, in which people question what it is to be human. People question what it is to be a baby in the womb. I'm going to begin reading at Verse 13, as David writes, "For it was You, Lord who formed my inward parts. You knit me together in my mother's womb. You talk about God knowing everything about us and God being everywhere with us, what God was with us, creating us in our mother's womb, and sadly, tragically, we are part of a culture in which human life is looked at as well, just a chance product of impersonal forces, of an impersonal universe that somehow evolved from a single cell... I think about that when I see a 747, and I would say that, you know, well, you know that just happened. It just came about from an explosion in a junk yard. Well, the psalmist says that God created you and me in our mother's womb. He says, For it was You Lord who formed my inward parts. Inward parts here, the original Hebrew has the idea of God formed our emotional make-up. God made David's emotional make-up. God made your emotional makeup. As God was intricately intimately involved, as he formed our inward parts in our mother's womb,



## water from rock

David continues, the Lord knit me together in my mother's womb. Here, David is using wonderful metaphor, wonderful symbolism, comparing God to a woman who is knitting. See God knit you. God was closely intricately involved in knitting, in creating every cell in you, every nerve, every bone, every muscle. And this leads David then to sing, "I praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful. Are your works that I know very well." I like how the Jerusalem Bible translates this "for so many marvels, I thank you. A wonder am I." And I just pray that everyone could look in the mirror and say, a wonder am I.

David continuously praising God, "My frame was not hidden from you when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth. Your eyes beheld my informed substance." David is using metaphor. He's using poetic imagery. David is comparing being created in the darkness and the secret of our mother's womb he says It's like being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth. That's in the womb. In a place that's secret, remote from human eyes, God was going about his work of creating you and me. David says, we were intricately woven by God. The Hebrew word translated to intricately woven literally means to embroider, to decorate. It is a word that is used in the Book of Exodus of the intricately woven tapestries in the tabernacle as they were carefully artfully woven and creating. So in the darkness of the womb, as in the lowest parts of the Earth, God was weaving your tendons, your nerves, veins, arteries, muscles. You are a wonder, David says. Look at a baby's hand, look at a baby's eye and be in awe of the creator.

David continues, "Lord, your eyes beheld my unformed substance." Before the human embryo has any form any shape of what it will be in size and shape, God sees it all. God sees us in our beginning, in our development, our completion, God sees it all as he is creating us. All of this leads David to praise God in verse 16. In what is one of the most incredible, the most fantastic statements in all of scripture, "In your book were written all the days that were written for me when none of them existed." God knows all your days, their beginning, their number, their accomplishments, their end. God knows all of that in your mother's womb... I think we can all agree with David as he praises God. He says, "how weighty to me are your thoughts, O God. How vast are the sum of them? I try to count them. They are more than the sand." And those are God's thoughts towards you from the very time God was creating you in your mother's womb. You are very special to him.

I am Tim Smith, a fellow traveler. Thanks for listening until next time.