

1

Psalm 139

An Introduction

2

Our basic structure:

- 1) Study Psalm passage
- 2) Consider cultural setting ~ ancient,
- 3) Gain New Covenant insight

current

3

These weeks will build... yet...

Until COVID-19 is over, call in your questions for the *next* week.

(530) 273-1343 x214

4

Class in session

~ Bible's open

~ Notes printed out

~ Pen in hand

5

Additional resources:

~ *The Psalms – An Overview*

~ Names of God – see your bible's introduction / also, Psalm 16:1

6

Basic outlines for Psalm 139

- 1)
Four strophes (stanzas)
1-6

7-12
13-18
19-24

7

Basic outlines for Psalm 139

2)

Six strophes (stanzas)

1-6

7-12

13-16

17-18*

19-22

23-24*

8

Outline:

1-6	you know
7-12	you are there
13-16	you formed me
17-18*	praise in wonder
19-22	your enemies, my enemies
23-24*	prayer in humility

9

Not...

A philosopher speaking philosophical notions

But...

A worshipper speaking transcendent truth

10

"Omniscience, omnipresence, omnipotence are often used as expository language for the three sections of part one. But it must be done with care lest this conceptualization becomes a knowing about God without a being known, accompanied, created, and sustained by God. Devotion and confession must not be reduced to metaphysics."

James L. Mays ~ p. 427

11

On Society

"Psalm 139 is the most personal expression in Scripture of the Old Testament's radical

monotheism.”

David surrounded by polytheism

12

On Society

Charles Taylor – our disenchanting world, our mechanistic universe, leads to “an age [where people] suffer from a threatening loss of meaning.” In rejecting the transcendent, we gain a haunting sense that we are missing something.

13

On Society

Julian Barnes

“I don’t believe in God, but I miss him.”

14

On Society

Roger Scruton

Speaks of a “culture of repudiation,” and he defended the human soul against every form of reductionism...

15

On Society

Paul in Athens ~ Acts 17:28a

“In Him we live and move and have our being”

16

On Society

Paul in Athens ~ Acts 17:28a

“In Him we live and move and have our being”

Psalm 139 is this phrase on steroids

17

New Covenant insight

begin at the end

v. 23-24

The way everlasting...

18 ☐

The way..

Jeremiah 6:16

John 14:6

Matthew 11:28-30