

Poems, Prayers & Promises



Repentance, Prayer, & the “Way Everlasting”



Series Review



Psalm 139:1–6 (ESV)

To the choirmaster. A Psalm of David.

¹ 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.

Psalm 139:7–12 (ESV)

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.

Psalm 139:13–18 (ESV)

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. 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.

Psalm 139:19–24 (ESV)

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. 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! ²⁴ And see if there be any grievous way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting!

The “Speed Bump” and “Rumble Strips”



The Big Idea

The “way everlasting” is opened only to those who are tested and known by God. In other words, salvation is given to those who, in faith, turn away from their sins and turn to rely on God’s mercy in Jesus Christ.

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“Rumble Strips”

1. Psalm 139 is about David’s (and our) **intimate personal relationship with God.**
2. God’s complete **knowledge** can be **either comforting or terrifying.**
3. God’s **presence** everywhere can be **either comforting or terrifying.**
4. God’s control over **creation and providence**—his intimate and total control over an individual’s life—is **both delightful and sobering.**

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Repentance, Prayer, & the “Way Everlasting”



Matthew 7:21–23 (ESV)

²¹ Not everyone who says to me, “Lord, Lord,” will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. ²² On that day many will say to me, “Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?” ²³ And then will I declare to them, **“I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.”**

Matthew 25:41–43, 46 (ESV)

⁴¹ Then he will say to those on his left, “**Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. . . .** ⁴⁶ And these will **go away into eternal punishment**, but the righteous into eternal life.”

Applying the Word



The
Table
of
Exchange

