

THE OMNIPRESENT GOD

PSALM 139:7-12

Introduction:

Tell me about the God you worship. This is what David is doing in this prayer. He is putting before us his understanding of the great God of Israel.

Consider some basic things about this God--He is Spirit. This means that He does not have a body, or is He limited the space and time.

He is a Person. The word translated "presence" has the root idea of "face". Persons have faces. So we are worshippers of the God who is a person and is spirit.

And He is omnipresent. This is a theological term that means He is present everywhere. However this is open to misunderstanding. This is not pantheism which identifies everything with God. While God is everywhere and is in everything, He is in no way limited. While His presence gives existence everything, He maintains His divine authority over everything and is not under the control of anything.

David describes what this means to him as a person of faith. He is not setting forth a theological speculation about the nature of God, but is rather expressing his experience of God in his life. I think we can set this forth in three rather simple statements.

I. I CAN NEVER ESCAPE HIS PRESENCE.

Jonah 1:1-3 (NKJV)

¹ Now the word of the Lord came to Jonah the son of Amittai, saying, ² "Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and cry out against it; for their wickedness has come up before Me." ³ But Jonah arose to flee to Tarshish from the presence of the Lord. He went down to Joppa, and found a ship going to Tarshish; so he paid the fare, and went down into it, to go with them to Tarshish from the presence of the Lord.

Listen to the words of David with Jonah's experience in mind.

1. Where can I go from Your presence?
2. Into heaven.
3. Into sheol.
4. Furtherest parts of the earth.

II. I AM NEVER BEYOND HIS CARE.

Psalm 139:10 (NKJV)

¹⁰ Even there Your hand shall lead me, And Your right hand shall hold me.

Hebrews 13:5-6 (NKJV)

⁵ Let your conduct *be* without covetousness; *be* content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, *"I will never leave you nor forsake you."* ⁶ So we may boldly say: *"The Lord is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?"*

1. Israel was never beyond His care in the wilderness.
2. David was never beyond His care in his fleeing from Saul.

III. HE WILL BE WITH ME IN THE DARKEST PLACES OF LIFE.

1. The darkness that lack of understanding brings.

Isaiah 50:10 (NKJV)

¹⁰ "Who among you fears the Lord? Who obeys the voice of His Servant? Who walks in darkness And has no light? Let him trust in the name of the Lord And rely upon his God.

2. The darkness created by sinful behavior.

Jonah in the belly of the whale.

David in the king's palace, there is Nathan the prophet.

3. The darkness of death.

Psalm 23:4 (NKJV)

⁴Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil;
For You *are* with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.