God or the Coronavirus?

Psalm 139

Introduction:

Over the last month or so... I've been asked... as I am sure you have too... what I think about this Covid19... or what does this Bible say about the coronavirus?

Well... I can tell you this.... The Bible doesn't say anything about the coronavirus... but it does say much about various diseases (leprosy, blindness, lameness, deafness, some curable... some terminal; the biggest disease would be that of SIN... curable? Yes... terminal? Yes. It depends on how you choose to treat it.)

There are only two things that are guaranteed in this world until the Lord Jesus comes again... and after that there is only one thing that really matters.

Those two things: death and God.

As believers... as concerned as we are about various global crisis and situations that may happen at any given time... our focus should remain on the 2nd part of the equation... the Great Physician... GOD.

That brings us to our text this morning... Psalm 139.

• Of all the great passages that describe God... I believe this section still gives the most rounded description of all that God is.

1. The Greatness Of God's Knowledge vs. 1-6

The theological word for God's knowledge is Omniscience... it simply means that God knows everything.

Five times in this Psalm (vs. 1-2, 4, 23), David stated that God knew him... not by some random thought our idea or some simple acquaintance ... David considered that God knew him on a personal level.

- What does God know about us?
 - 1. He knows what we do. (vs. 2a)
 - 2. He knows what we think. (vs. 2b)
 - 3. He knows where we go. (vs. 3)
 - 4. He knows what we say. (vs. 4)
 - 5. He knows what we need. (vs. 5)

- David found himself at the end of this section trying to understand the greatness of God. (verse
 but found himself overwhelmed.
- ❖ When all things in this world don't seem to make sense or appear to be to overwhelming ... trust in the Greatness of God's knowledge.

2. The Power Of God's Presence (vs. 7–12)

Theologians call this *omnipresence*: God is present everywhere at all times.

At this stage in David's life, I don't believe he is trying to escape away from God... I suspect he has already "been there, and tried that" ... (Bathsheba) ... He is telling those who hear this song of praise (Written for the director of music.)... find comfort in the all powerful presence of God.

I think it is a simple "thank you" to God for always having his back.

Consider the questions that he poses... I don't think these are directed toward God as much as they are rhetorical for himself? (Even though he goes ahead and answers) (verse 7) "Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence?"

- 1. First, David had explored the heights and the depths. (verse 8)
- 2. Second, David had traveled the world from East to West. (verse 9&10)
- 3. Third, So David says... let's play hide and seek in the DARK. (verses 11&12)

Remember... the will of God will never lead us where the grace of God cannot keep us.

The Wonder Of God's Power. (vs. 13–18)

God is not only **omniscient** (all knowing) and **omnipresent** (everywhere, all the time), but he is also *omnipotent*... all powerful.

It's interesting that David chose the miracle of birth and not the vastness of creation to describe the power of God.

It's clear that David's goal here is to describe the specific personal relation between God and mankind and not just a general description of saying that God created the all things.

1. David recognizes God is the Author of Life. (vs. 13-16)

What does he mean by "ordained"?

- The Hebrew text literally means "to mould in a form, as a potter"
- I believe the answer might be found in the New Testament writings of Paul...
 - o Ephesians 2:10

- o Ephesians 4:11
- o Our Psalm here was written "for the director of music"

So God has ordain/gifted/molded us for in some unique way for the purpose of serving Him and others.

(Verses 17 & 18) David seems to be amazed and even marvel at the reality that God is continually thinking about us. That God never sleeps and never leaves us even when we are sleeping.

(Verses 19 - 22) David describes his daily struggle of dealing with those who hate God.

Conclusion:

He concludes with a very familiar passage that has been transformed to a wonderful hymn of prayer. "Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. ²⁴See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting."

Summery: The coronavirus is very serious is going to continue to spread. And as it is a virus, we will now need to be more aware of the risk of contraction. It can lead to physical death as does so many other deseases.

Remember that life doesn't end with death on this earth... Paul reminds the believer... "For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain." (Philippians 1:21).

There is an eternal life and a place that is being prepared for all who submit to the Lordship of Christ through baptism and faithfulness.

Romans 6:23 *"For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."*