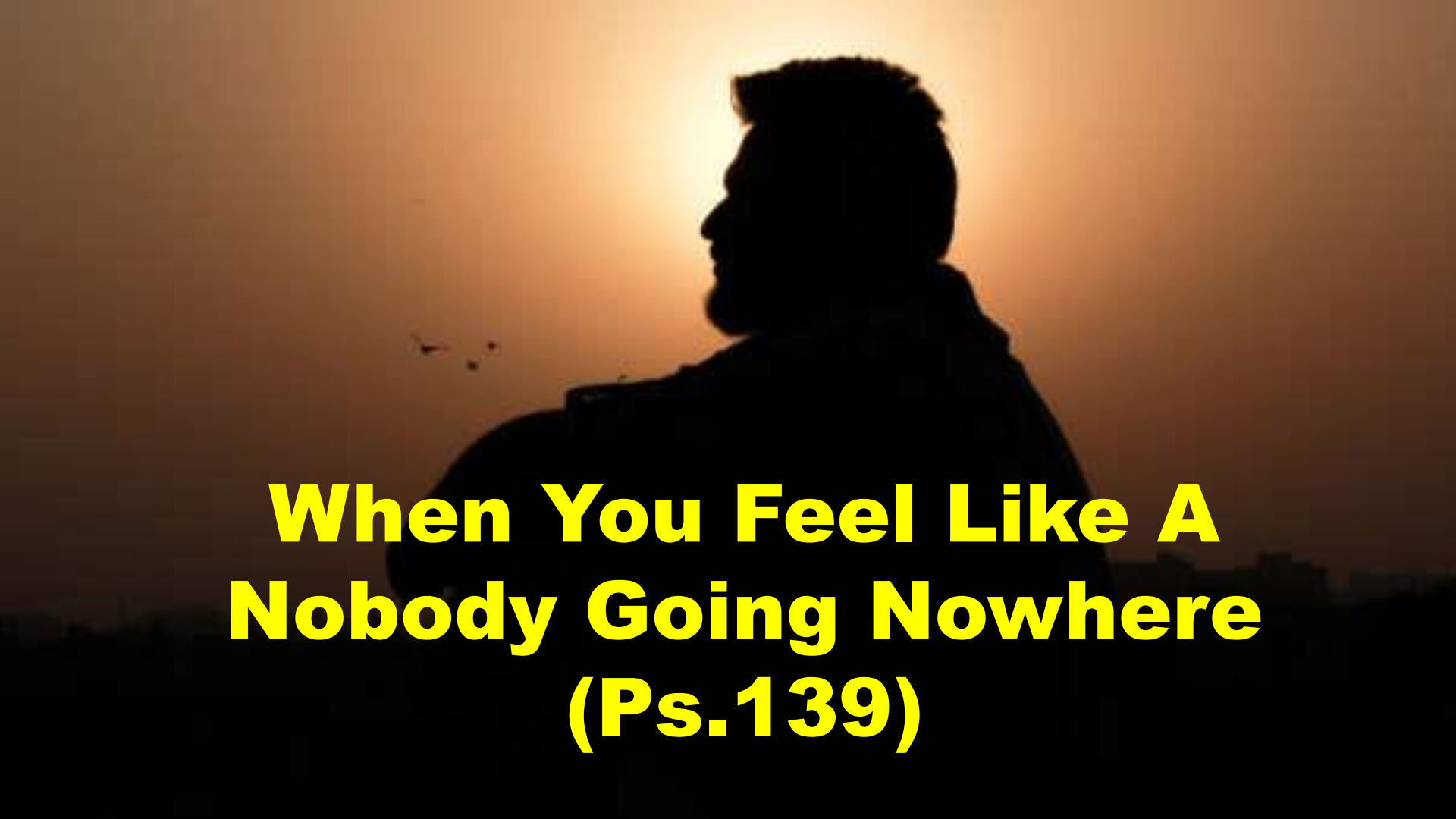


- **In quiet moments, contemplated on what done with life?**
- **Life mean anything to anybody? – melancholy**
- **Under-appreciated, overlooked, under-paid, unnecessary**
- **Wrestle with thoughts of what difference does my life make?**
- **Does anybody know or even care about me?**

A silhouette of a man with a beard, looking towards the right, set against a bright, glowing sunset or sunrise. The background is a warm, orange and yellow gradient. The man's silhouette is dark and detailed, showing his hair, beard, and the outline of his jacket.

**When You Feel Like A
Nobody Going Nowhere
(Ps.139)**

**How Well Does God
Know Me? (1-6)**

**Problem
of Identity**

**How Well Does God
Know Me? (1-6)**

**Problem
of Identity**

**How Close Is God
To Me? (7-12)**

**Problem
of Loneliness**

How Well Does God Know Me? (1-6)

Problem of Identity

How Close Is God To Me? (7-12)

Problem of Loneliness

How Carefully Has God Made Me? (13-18)

Problem of Self-image

**How Well Does God
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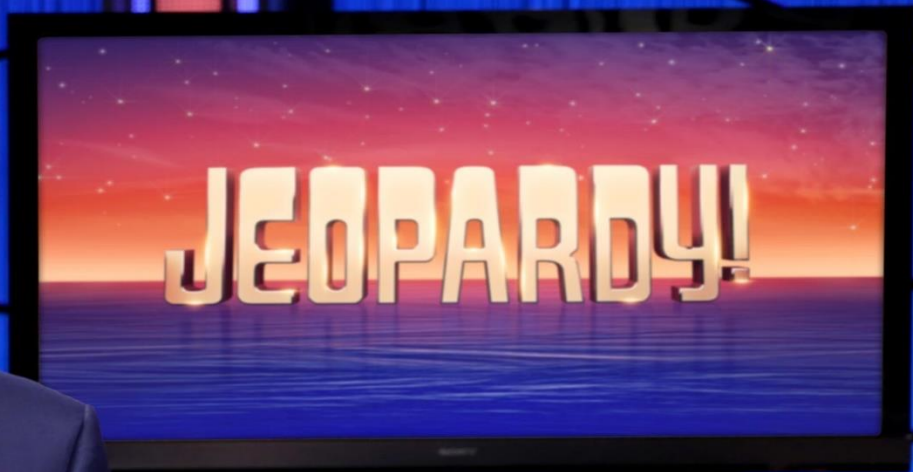
**Problem
of Self-image**

**How Much Will God
Protect & Help Me?
(19-24)**

**Problem
of Fear/Worry**

I. THE ENCOURAGEMENT

FROM GOD (139:1-18)



**How Well Does God
Know Me? (1-6)**

**Problem
of Identity**

**Who am I?
Why am I here?
Where do I fit?**

**How Well Does God
Know Me? (1-6)**

**Problem
of Identity**

**Omni = All
Science = Know
God is all knowing**

**Who am I?
Why am I here?
Where do I fit?**




0 LORD, THOU HAST SEARCHED ME AND KNOWN ME

PSALM 139:1

Knowing-Jesus.com

- **God knew him (vv.1-2, 4, 23)**
- **Explore, dig into**
- **Search for precious metals & gems**



An archaeological excavation site with several workers and a woman cleaning a pottery vessel. The scene is set in a sandy, open area with a large earthen wall in the background. In the foreground, a woman wearing a wide-brimmed hat and a long-sleeved shirt is kneeling, meticulously cleaning a large, rounded, light-colored pottery vessel with a small brush. To her left, another person is partially visible, also working on a similar vessel. In the background, several other workers are engaged in various tasks: one is pushing a blue wheelbarrow, another is standing with hands on hips, and others are observing. The overall atmosphere is one of active archaeological work.

**“Nobody really
knows me –
nobody
understands
me”**

“How are you?”

Broken. Useless. Alone. Clueless.
Fused. Betrayed. Fragile. On the verge
tears. Depressed. Anxious. About
ak down. Reluctant. Give up. Pathetic
nnoying. I'm just a burden. Distant
lonely. Bitter. Heartbroken. Lonely
ected. Crushed. I feel like I'm going
st fall apart at any moment. Empty
Defeated. Never good enough.

Psalm 139:2

² *You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
you discern my thoughts from afar.*

- **Sitting & rising = all actions throughout the day**
- **V.2b – even before thoughts fully present in our minds, God is aware of what they are going to be**
- **Understands what prompts us to think certain thoughts**
- **Understands the hidden, unspoken motives behind our actions**
- **God gets inside our heads – He sees what's going on in there**

Psalm 139:3

³ *You search out my path and my lying down
and are acquainted with all my ways.*

- **V.3a – “comprehend” (NKJV) or
“scrutinize” (NASV) = sift or winnow as grain**



Psalm 139:4

*4 Even before a word is on my tongue,
behold, O Lord, you know it altogether.*

- **Before thought taken shape where form into appropriate word, God knows what it's going to be**
- **Married many years, spouse knows what going to say before we even say it?**
- **If feel insignificant, object of God's attention every moment of every day of our life**

Psalm 139:5

*5 You hem me in, behind and before,
and lay your hand upon me.*

- **Wherever we may turn, God surrounds us**
- **Providential care, protects & provides, even when we don't realize it**
- **Surrounded by omniscient God**
- **Not only knows & cares, but active in that knowing & caring**
- **Hand of blessing**
- **Every move make, word speak, thought think – beloved & caring, not cold & distant**

Psalm 139:6

⁶ *Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is high; I cannot attain it.*

- **Rather than frighten us, omniscience ought to encourage us**
- **Such knowledge too lofty for me to attain**
- **Knows every thought ever had, plus billions of people out there**
- **God knows, not to hurt, but to love us**
- **God knows us – convicting but also comforting**
- **Lonely? Longing for intimacy? Suffering & think no one understands?**

**How Well Does God
Know Me? (1-6)**

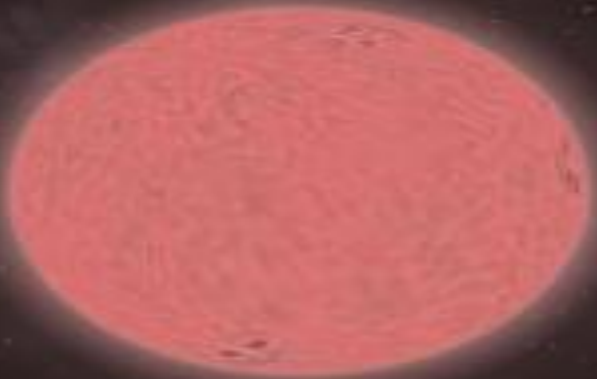
**Problem
of Identity**

**How Close Is God
To Me? (7-12)**


**Problem
of Loneliness
Omnipresent**

Image courtesy of NASA/JPL-Caltech
Downloaded from NASA.gov
Image credit: NASA/JPL-Caltech
Caption: Proxima Centauri b
Date: 01/18/2016 10:00 AM
Resolution: 1,000 x 1,000

**Reach by jet
plane =
53 billion years**



- **If God went on vacation for even a minute, universe fall apart**
- **Nowhere He could go because He's already there**
- **God is a Spirit – He can be everywhere at once**
- **Psalm 34:18 (NLT)**
- **The Lord is close to the brokenhearted;**
- **He rescues those whose spirits are crushed.**



Psalm

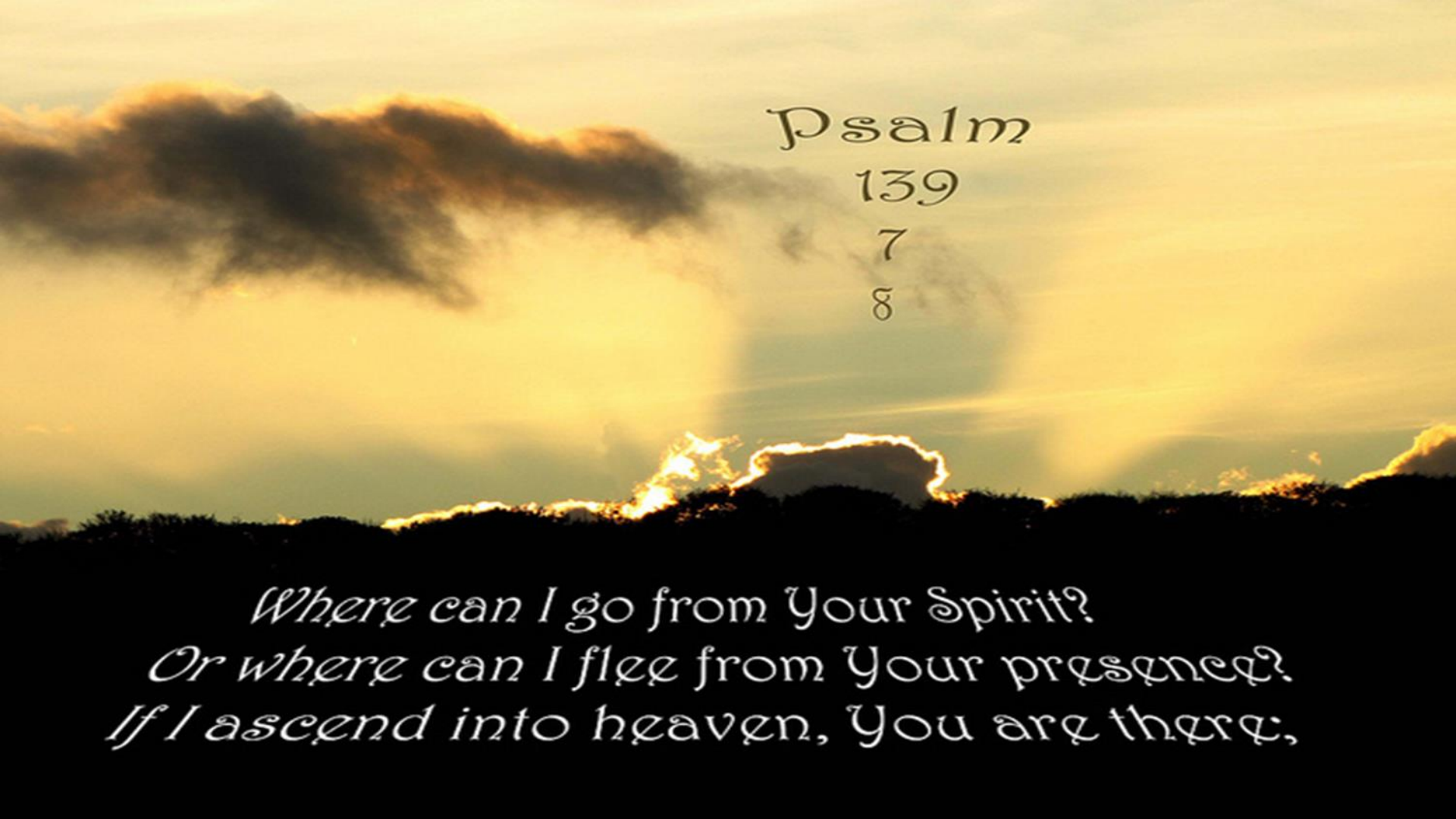
139

7

8

*Where can I go from Your Spirit?
Or where can I flee from Your presence?*

- **Because of guilt, man tried to flee from presence of God – Adam, Eve, Jonah**
- **Not attempting to flee from God**
- **Visualizing what might happen if one attempted to get beyond reach of a compassionate & benevolent God**
- **Not cosmic policeman, watching every move of every creature, eager to pounce with glee upon our failures**
- **Rhetorical questions emphatic way to say omnipresence for our good**



Psalm

139

7

8

*Where can I go from Your Spirit?
Or where can I flee from Your presence?
If I ascend into heaven, You are there,*



**If I make my bed in Sheol
(the grave, the unseen), You are
there**


A sunset over the ocean with rays of light. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright orange and yellow glow that spreads across the sky and reflects on the water. The sky transitions from a deep blue at the top to a lighter blue near the horizon. The water is dark blue with some whitecaps visible. The overall mood is serene and peaceful.

*If I rise on the wings of the dawn,
if I settle on the far side of the sea,*

*Even there your hand will guide me,
your right hand will hold me fast.*

Psalm 139:9-10

- **“You” (v.8) very emphatic in Hebrew**
- **“You, God, You are there!”**
- **Investigated:**
 - **Heights & depths**
 - **East & west**
 - **Land & sea**
- **Found no place where God was not**

A silhouette of a tree branch with several leaves is shown against a bright, glowing sun. The sun is positioned in the center-left of the frame, creating a strong backlight effect. The sky is dark, and the overall scene is a high-contrast silhouette against a bright light source.

"If I say, "Surely the
darkness will hide me
and the light become
night around me,"
even the darkness will
not be dark to you;
the night will shine
like the day, for
darkness is as light to
you.

Psalm 139:11-12

**How Well Does God
Know Me? (1-6)**


**Problem
of Identity
Omniscience**

**How Close Is God
To Me? (7-12)**

**Problem
of Loneliness
Omnipresent**

**How Carefully Has God
Made Me? (13-18)**

**Problem
of Self-image
Omnipotence**



Psalm 139:13

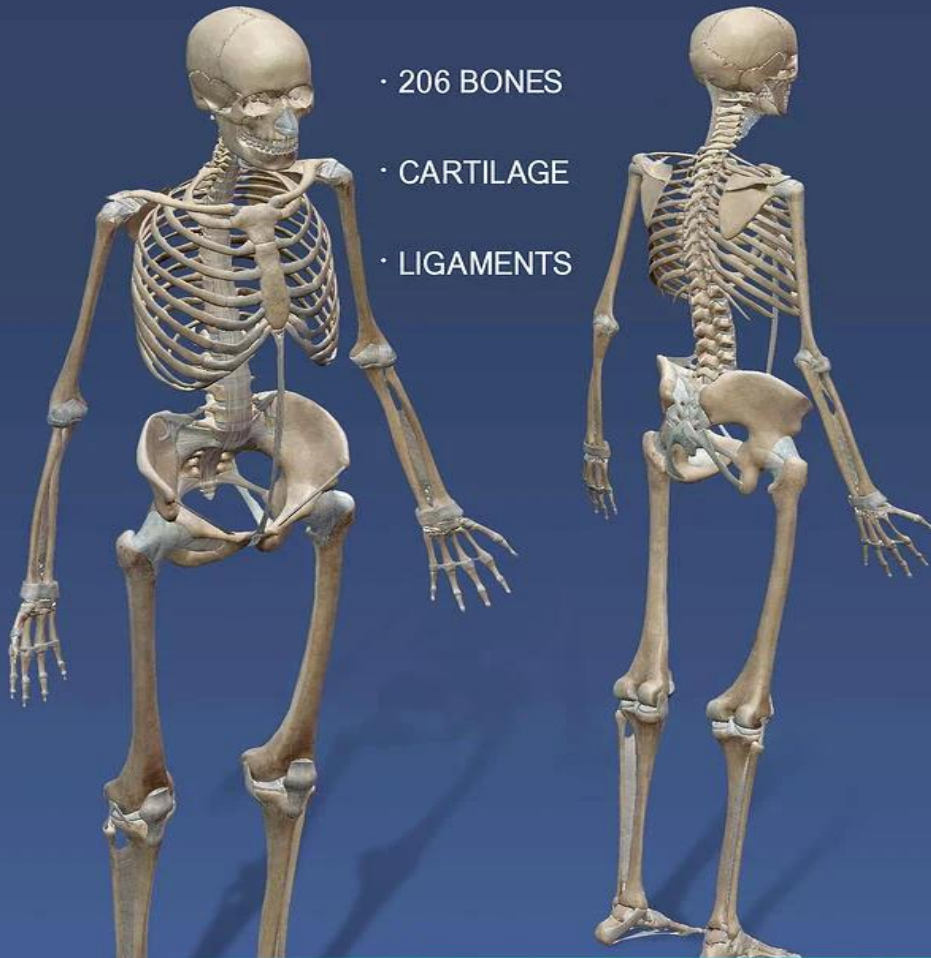
For you
created
my inmost
being; you knit me together
in my mother's womb.

- **God is involved in placing all the organs & various parts of the body together into such a well-knitted fashion that it forms a veritable thicket of muscles, tendons, bones, blood, veins & arteries**
- **“You know me & see me & are near me always because You made me”**
- **“Your omniscience & omnipresence rest upon your omnipotence”**
- **Three attributes always work in tandem**
- **“Before I ever knew You, You cared for me – unborn & yet, under the control & guardianship of God”**

Psalm 139:14

¹⁴ *I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.
Wonderful are your works;
my soul knows it very well.*

- **Self-critical, putting self down**
- **“I’m ugly, no good, worthless, can’t do anything”**
- **“God, You failed when You made me”**
- **“No, I didn’t – I created you just the way I wanted you – but you haven’t figured out how much I love you & what my purpose for you is at this time in history”**
- **We are God’s treasured creation**



- 206 BONES
- CARTILAGE
- LIGAMENTS

THE HUMAN SKELETON

PSALM 139:15,16

“My frame was not hidden from You,
When I was made in secret,
And skillfully wrought in the lowest parts
of the earth.

- **Secret = protected place, concealed & safe place = womb**
- **Embroidered piece of tapestry = veins & arteries**



Psalm 139:16
Your eyes saw my substance,
being yet unformed.

Psalm 139:16

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.*



*How precious also are thy thoughts unto me, O God!
How great is the sum of them!
If I should count them, they are more in number than
the sand: when I awake, I am still with thee.*

Psalms 139:17-18



**How Well Does God
Know Me? (1-6)**

**Problem
of Identity
Omniscience**

**How Close Is God
To Me? (7-12)**

**Problem
of Loneliness
Omnipresent**

**How Carefully Has God
Made Me? (13-18)**

**Problem
of Self-image
Omnipotence**

II. THE ENEMIES OF GOD

(139:19-22)

**How Well Does God
Know Me? (1-6)**

**Problem
of Identity**

**How Close Is God
To Me? (7-12)**

**Problem
of Loneliness**

**How Carefully Has God
Made Me? (13-18)**

**Problem
of Self-image**

**How Much Will God
Protect & Help Me?
(19-24)**

**Problem
of Fear/Worry**

Psalm 139:19-20

- 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.

Psalm 139:21-22

- 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.

Matthew 5:45

- "that you may be sons of your Father in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on *the* evil and on *the* good, and sends rain on *the* just and on *the* unjust".

Acts 14:15-18 ...the living God, who made the heaven, the earth, the sea, and all things that are in them, 16 who in bygone generations allowed all nations to walk in their own ways. 17 Nevertheless He did not leave Himself without witness, in that He did good, gave us rain from heaven and fruitful seasons, filling our hearts with food and gladness.”

III. THE EXAMINATION BY **GOD (139:23-24)**

A. The Probe (23a)

B. The Proving (23b)

Psalm 139:23-24

²³ *Search me, O God, and know my heart!*
Try me and know my thoughts!

III. THE EXAMINATION BY **GOD (139:23-24)**

A. The Probe (23a)

B. The Proving (23b)

C. The Piloting (24)

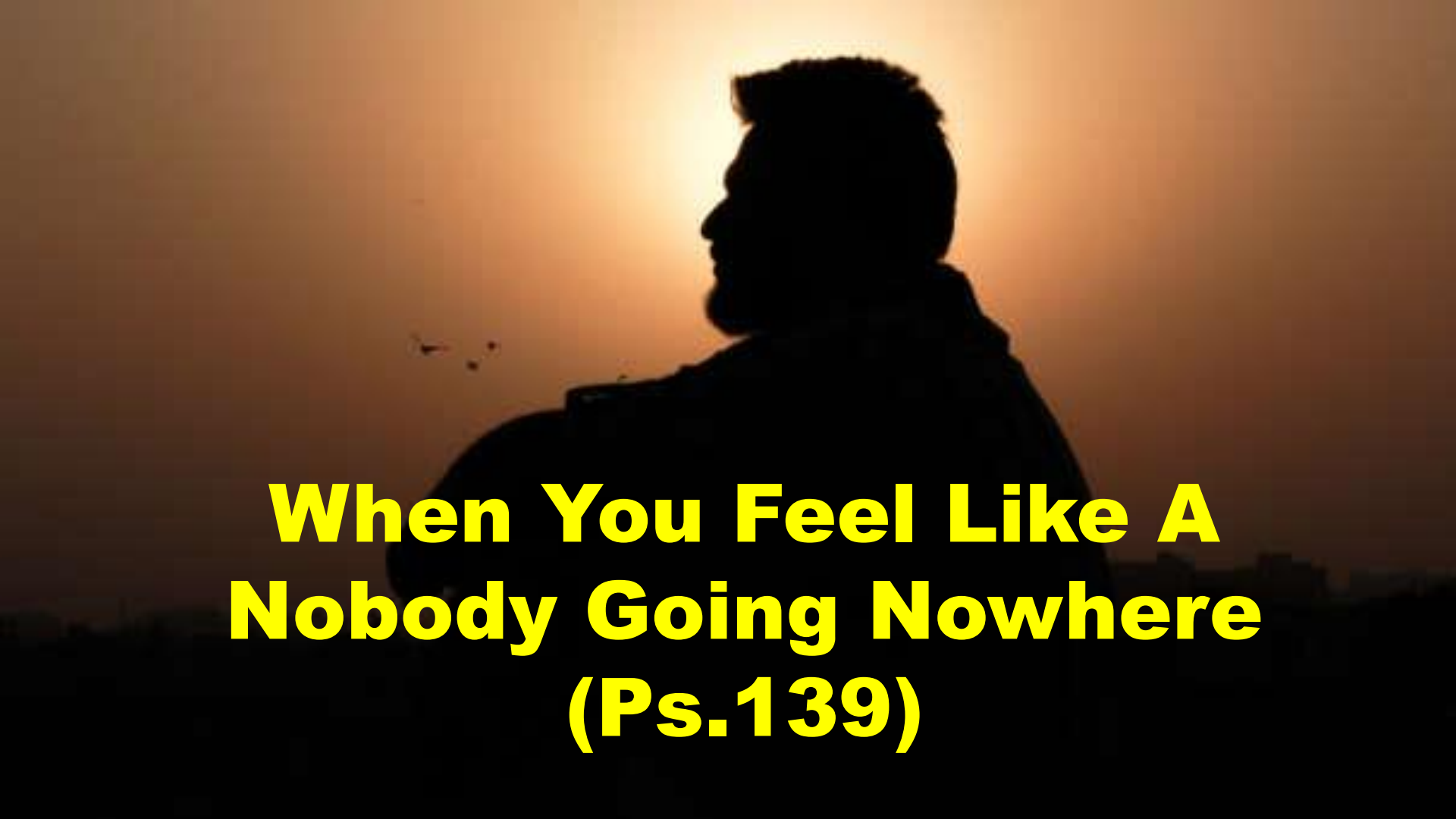
Psalm 139:23-24

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!*

- **Invites God's searchlight because knows God has our best interests at heart**
- **Once understand God loves us, willing for Him to probe into our lives so we can know what needs to change**
- **“Search me & know my heart” only spoken by someone who feels completely loved & accepted**

- **Stepped on, beat up, kicked around**
- **Feel dirty, unworthy, useless - we matter to God**
- **Parents hurtful words to you ring in your ears to this day or didn't say words longed to hear**
- **Spouse rejected you, friend betrayed you**
- **Don't let another human being define you**
- **Don't draw your conclusions about yourself based on their opinions**
- **Look higher – you matter to God so much He sent His Son to die for you**
- **You belong, cherished by God & be His forever if continue to serve Him**

A silhouette of a man with a beard, looking out at a bright sunset or sunrise. The sun is a large, glowing orb in the center of the frame, casting a warm, orange glow across the sky. The man's profile is dark against the light background.

**When You Feel Like A
Nobody Going Nowhere
(Ps.139)**