

## YOU KNOW ME

There is a children's song that we sing sometimes at the Family Service in church that has the lines:

"You know me and You love me since before the world began,

How wonderful to be a part of God's amazing plan."

And I recently heard Alister Begg refer to Psalm 139 as encapsulating this omniscience of God. That has set me thinking.

One passage that always produces a mixture of fear and awe in me is the part in Matthew 24 where the Lord Jesus says to the 'Goats', "...Depart from Me, I never knew you ..."

We sometimes ask, "Does he know the Lord, Does she know the Lord? But here in Matthew 24, the all-important question is the reverse: Does He know me?"

In one sense, of course God knows me for He is omniscient, He knows everything, He is God! But does He really Know me, intimately?

In a way, I know King Charles, who he is, what he does, who his family are, where he lives etc., etc. but I don't know him, personally, and he doesn't know me. There is no personal relationship there.

The thought of God knowing all about me can be either very scary or it can be exceedingly comforting and reassuring. So what makes the difference?

Now suppose, for some inexplicable reason, King Charles decided that he cared about me and wanted to get to know this old codger; and sent me an invitation to meet him. And suppose I was wise enough not to spurn that invitation, and arranged to go to him at the time appointed, and under the royal protocols required. And that the King sat me down for a full hour and asked all about me and proposed that, as he had great plans for me, this would be only the first of an open-ended series of getting-to-know-you encounters with the King. From then on I could say that I knew the King, personally; and he could say that he knew me!

But this is exactly what God has done for us. There is no reason why He should love us, as sinful humans, except that it is His wonderful nature to love the undeserving, and to invite them into a personal relationship where He can do for us and in us what we could never do – or even want to do – to discover for ourselves what His majestic, holy love can do in us and through us.

So, let's then conclude by thinking on what the first 6 verses of Psalm 139 says about His knowledge of you and me.

### **Ps. 139:1-6**

1. Oh 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.

So, Lord, You know:-

i)--What I do. (v.2a)

- ii)–What I think (v.2b)
- iii)–Where I go (v.3)
- iv)–What I say (v.4)
- v)–What I need (v.5)

And as Jesus says to His disciples:

You did not choose Me but I chose you and appointed that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should remain, so that whatever you ask the Father in My name, He may give it you. (John 15:16)

Hallelujah for a God and Father, Shepherd, Saviour and King like that!