NO OTHER GODS

— 30 Days of Worship —

Household gods / Direction / Hands -

READ

Psalm 139

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.

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!

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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 vou:

the night is bright as the day, for darkness is as light with you. 13 For you formed my inward parts; vou 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:

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in your book were written, every one of them,
the days that were formed for me

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.

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!

REFLECT

This psalm speaks so clearly of the intimate knowledge that Jehovah Shammah (The Lord is There) has of his people. God sees you. He knows you.

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Not even your own family, who anticipated the day of your birth and watched you grow up can ever have the intimate understanding of you like your heavenly Father does. They aren't always there for you! Family gods, in the form of traditions or generational sins may seem to be what influences your direction in life, but the truth is, you belong to Jehovah. His thoughts toward you are vast and immeasurable. He knows vour every move, your every thought, and the words you are about to speak, even before they are verbalized. He is constantly guiding and directing you, and you cannot outrun him or hide from him, no matter how hard you try!

RESPOND

Today we are going to worship God using our hands.

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Perhaps you will want to reread Psalm 139 out loud in a rhythmic fashion, using your hands to create the percussion you need as a backdrop.

Maybe you would prefer to find a small jar and fill it with sand, as you meditate on the truth that God's thoughts about you outnumber not just the sand in the jar, but all the sand on all the beaches of the world! Put this jar in a highly visible place in your home to remind yourself that it is God that directs your path, not your household gods.

Or maybe today you can serve the Lord as you worship him along the way. As you go throughout your day, whenever you sit, stand, lie down, or get up, take a second to acknowledge the tender care and watchful eye of your Shepherd. Think of your day as an ongoing service of worship to the Lord.