

**LESSON 67**

**Egermeier's Story:**

Page 260 – Elijah, the Little Cloud, and the Great Rain

**Memory Verse:** Psalm 139:1 “O LORD, You have searched me and known me.” NASB

**Scripture:** I Kings 18:41-46

**Doctrinal Emphasis:** Omniscience

**Key Theme:** *Omniscience means that God knows all things completely. This incorporates all things past, present, future, actual, and possible.*

God's knowledge of humanity and events, both temporal and eternal, is only comparatively understandable by man. We have only to sum up the total expanse of the knowledge of man and know that this amount of knowledge is a tiny footnote to God's knowledge. L. S. Chafer states it well when he compares man's knowledge with that of omniscience: “Intellect in man is hardly more than the capacity or readiness to acquire knowledge, which knowledge, when acquired, as compared with omniscience, is even less than elementary, while the understanding of God is all-inclusive and infinite.”<sup>1</sup>

There are several passages that explain some of the extent of God's omniscience. Psalm 139:1-6 describes the psalmists awe at the extent and immense expanse of God's knowledge.

God has complete knowledge of man. Psalm 139:1 states that He has searched us and knows us. The Hebrew word translated *search* means “to search, search for, search out, examine, investigate.” God knows all there is to know about each of us, just as He knew all there was to know about the psalmist David.

God knows us totally—when we rise up and when we sit down (Psalm 139:2a). He knows our thoughts even before we think those thoughts (Psalm 139:2b). The statement is that God knows our thought “from afar,” meaning He knows the thoughts we have “as they are being formulated.”<sup>2</sup> Psalm 139:4 extends God's knowledge to our words, both spoken or unspoken.

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<sup>1</sup> Chafer, Lewis Sperry, Systematic Theology, Volume 1, pg 192

<sup>2</sup> McCalley, Chester A., I Am: A Study of God's Revelation of Himself, pg. 11

This knowledge becomes overwhelming to the psalmist in verse 6 when he states, “Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is too high, I cannot attain to it.” It is impossible for man to fully comprehend the concept of the omniscience of God; we can only accept it by faith in God’s Word.

There are several applications of God’s omniscience that are clear.

1. The omniscience of God is the antidote to intellectual pride—I Samuel 2:3 (2:2-5)
2. God’s omniscience relaxes prayer—Matthew 6:8.
3. The omniscience of God makes the Word of God dependable.
4. God’s omniscience gives meaning to the love of God. God loves me, in spite of knowing everything about me!