



10/9/25

I was talking with someone in the worship center on a Wednesday morning when I heard a voice behind me say, "Uh oh." I knew that voice. I've searched out that voice. It was the voice of my one-year-old granddaughter... her favorite word... "uh oh."

When I hear the voices of my children and grandchildren, something inside my heart wakes up. Joy. And though they come at least partially from my genes I don't know them like the Lord knows them... or like He knows you and me. The Lord has searched us personally and known us so deeply that He sees our cells and ribosomes (the smallest part of a human cell... I looked it up). How can He see them so clearly? He designed them. How cool is that!!!

*Blessings,
Jonna*

Psalms 139:23-24 tells me what it means that He formed and breathed life into me...

Vs. 13 ~ He formed... He created all the intricacies of my inward parts... the way I would think and feel, and the things that would interest me... the things I would be good at. He created me to love music so much that, when I was seven years old, I stood in front of a grocery store and sang to a police officer... and told him that I love Jesus.

My translation says, "You knitted me together in my mother's womb." The Hebrew transliteration says, "You covered me... You protected me... You overshadowed me... in my mother's womb. To my parents, I was a surprise... but not to the Lord. My parents divorced soon after I was born. It was not a good time to be born. But the Lord knew me. He had a purpose for my life.

Vs. 14 ~ "I praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are Your works; my soul knows it very well." This verse has to be one of the hardest for me to believe. I see my failures... and I know there are more that I don't see. How could I be fearfully and wonderfully made? God made me with reverence and honor. He designed me to be unique, as He designed all His image bearers to be unique. I see my brokenness. He sees His marvelous design... that He

loves... that He hems in behind and before.

O Lord, please let my soul see what You see so that I can praise You. Let me praise YOU and boast in YOU for Your goodness. I don't want to think, "I'm fearfully and wonderfully made. I must be awesome." I want to be able to say, "I'm fearfully and wonderfully made. O Lord, YOU'RE awesome. You're the designer." Help me not to think too highly of myself so that I steal Your glory. Let me not think too lowly of myself... so that I steal Your glory. Let me think highly of You, the Designer, and give You all the glory.

Vs. 15-16 ~ "My frame was not hidden from You when I was being made in secret." The Hebrew word for "frame" means "strength, substance, the hidden structure that makes the outward action possible." O Lord, You intricately weaved me together in the depths of the earth so that I would have the substance to carry out Your purpose for me. You always equip Your image bearers with everything we need to live a life that glorifies You.

"Your eyes saw my unformed substance." You saw me before all the cells had come together to complete me. The Hebrew word for "unformed substance" also means "embryo." I was an embryo, not even recognizable as a baby on an ultrasound when You saw me... because You made me. I was a human being from conception! Even as You saw me develop in my mother's womb, You knew all the days of my life that were to come. You knew all the ways I would fail You even before I failed You once. You knew the day I would ask Jesus to be my Savior before I knew how to breathe. You knew the hard days I would face. You had a plan from the beginning of how You would use even the hardest days for my good... and You knew all the wonderful days You would celebrate with me.

Vs. 17-18 ~ "How precious to me are Your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them. If I would count them, they are more than the sand." You know my every thought before I do. But I can't comprehend all YOUR thoughts. I've heard people say this refers specifically to Your precious thoughts of me... and I didn't believe it. But Psalm 40 confirmed to me that this IS speaking of Your precious thoughts for me. Psalm 40:5 says, "You have multiplied, O Lord my God, your wondrous deeds and your thoughts toward us." And vs. 17 says, "As for me, I am poor and needy, but the Lord takes thought for me. You are my help and my deliverer." Lord, You take thought for ME! This is high. I cannot attain it!

"I awake, and I am still with You." I can wake up every single morning with absolute security because I never face a day without You. You protect me through the night, and You wake me up to Your unfailing love... whether I feel it or not.

Vs. 19-22 ~ These verses take a turn that I would not have expected. They speak of hatred toward those, not who hate ME, but who hate the LORD. Jesus said the world hates Him... and I see it. They are "men of blood." They take His name "in vain," speaking words about Him as though they know Him but their words are empty and not aligned with truth. They speak against Him with "malicious intent," seeking to destroy the faith of some and prevent the faith of others. They speak lies cloaked with plausible words of wisdom. Sometimes their lies are

blatant, but they don't care. They are driven by the father of lies, the devil himself.

Why speak of these enemies of God? This is a declaration! "Lord, my loyalty is with YOU. I stand with You. Let the world stand against me if it means I'm with You." Let me sincerely sing the words of Zach Williams' song, Hated...

*Bein' loved by the world is overrated
I think I'd rather be hated for lovin' You*

Lord, my loyalty is to You. Let this be true even when the world offers me promises of happiness that they have no power to give. Any happiness the world has to offer is temporary, and its end result is devastation. I stand with Jesus.

Vs. 23-24 ~ O Lord, You HAVE searched me and known me. And now I pray, "Search me, O God, and know my heart!" Search me, O Mighty One. I open my heart to You so that You can expose what needs to go. I pray that You will transform my thoughts, feelings, and desires so that every one of them is loyal to You. I want to please You.

Test me as You see fit. Your testing grows my faith. Reveal my anxieties... Anxiety is a lack of trust. Reveal my lack of trust so that I can put all my confidence, my boasting, and my hope in You. O Lord, please see the idols that I place above You, the wicked ways, the sorrow I bring on myself because of my corrupt desires... and help me remove them from my heart. I praise You that You don't just expose the wickedness in me. You free me from it... and You lead me on the narrow path that leads to life. You lead me into Your everlasting presence.

You have always searched me and known me. You have never abandoned me. You protect me through all my days that You've formed for me. You continue to search me and know me. You lead me home to You. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me. It is high. I cannot comprehend it... and yet, I will embrace it and rest in it... because it's true. Praise You, My Perfect Image Maker and Designer.