

Summer Psalms
FEARFULLY & WONDERFULLY MADE

Saturday, August 9
Reading: Psalms 139

Psalm 139:13 *For You created my inmost being; You knit me together in my mother's womb. 14 I praise You because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Your works are wonderful, I know that full well...16 Your eyes saw my unformed body; all the days ordained for me were written in Your book before one of them came to be.*

Have you ever noticed the pockmarks or dimples covering the surface of a golf ball? They make the ball look imperfect. So what's their purpose? An aeronautical engineer who designs golf balls says that a perfectly smooth ball would only travel about 130 yards off the tee. But the same ball with the right kind of dimples will fly twice that far. These apparent "flaws" minimize the ball's air resistance and allow it to travel much farther.¹

We could probably all name some physical characteristic we wish we had been born without. We call them "imperfections" and do everything we can to minimize or change them. The plastic surgery business has really been booming! But have you ever stopped to think that God created you that way!

In Psalm 139, David declares that it was God who created him and "knit [him] together in [his] mother's womb." God's eyes "saw [his] unformed body." God took special interest and delight in David before he was even formed. The Lord had a plan and purpose for him before his birth.

"All the days ordained for me were written in Your book before one of them came to be" (Psalm 139:16)

No wonder David had to stop so often to praise his Creator (see 139:6, 14, 17-18).

If this is not an appeal for the sanctity of life, I don't know what is!

This reminds me of an evangelist I heard several times during my education at Liberty University. His name was David Ring. Since 1973, he has spoken to millions of people at churches, conventions, schools, and corporations. He was born with cerebral palsy and struggled with depression and suicide until he turned his life over to Christ. Now he sees his disability as a tool to reach others. He knows that the disease that makes him walk funny and talk funny was part of the plan of God for his life and he is determined to fulfill his purpose and reach people with the gospel.²

Psalm 139 begins and ends with a call for God to search our hearts and lead us in the right way. He created us, "flaws" and all, to serve Him. Something David Ring will say in every message is this: "I have cerebral palsy... What's your problem?" God formed us for a purpose. Are we living to fulfill the purpose for which we were "fearfully and wonderfully made?"

¹ David C. McCasland. Our Daily Bread, May 27, 1999

² I encourage you to look up David Ring on the internet and listen to his messages.