

## **PSALM 139: FEARFULLY AND WONDERFULLY MADE**

**-How many of you remember who Erma Bombeck was? ( She was an American humorist who achieved great popularity for her newspaper column “At Wit’s End” that described suburban home life from the mid-1960s until the late 1990s. She wrote many books, the most popular one was: “If Life Is A Bowl of Cherries, What Am I Doing In The Pits?”, McGraw-Hill, 1978)**

**-She wrote a short story entitled: “When God Made Moms.” As I read it, just sit back and relax and enjoy the humor of it. She wrote: (By the time the Lord made *mothers*, He was into His sixth day of working overtime. An Angel appeared and said "Why are you spending so much time on this one"? And the Lord answered and said, "Have you seen the spec sheet on her? She has to be completely washable, but not plastic; have 200 movable parts, all replaceable; run on black coffee and leftovers; have a lap that can hold three children at one time and that disappears when she stands up; have a kiss that can cure anything from a scraped knee to a broken heart, and have six pairs of hands."**

**The Angel was astounded at the requirements for this one. "Six pairs of hands! No Way!" said the Angel.**

**The Lord replied, "Oh, it's not the hands that are the problem. It's the three pairs of eyes that mothers must have!"**

**"And that's just on the standard model?" The Angel asked.**

**The Lord nodded in agreement, "Yes, one pair of eyes are to see through the closed door as she asks her children what they are doing even though she already knows. Another pair in the back of her head are to see what she needs to know even though no one thinks she can. And the third pair are here in the front of her head. They are for looking at an errant child and saying that she understands and loves him or her without even saying a single word."**

**The Angel tried to stop the Lord. "This is too much work for one day. Wait until tomorrow to finish."**

**"But I can't!" the Lord protested, "I am so close to finishing this creation that is so close to my own heart. She already heals herself when she is sick AND can feed a family of six on a pound of hamburger and can get a nine year old to stand in the shower."**

**The Angel moved closer and touched the woman, "But you have made her so soft, Lord."**

**"Yes, she is soft", the Lord agreed, "But I have also made her tough. You have no idea what she can endure or accomplish."**

**"Will she be able to think?" asked the inquisitive Angel.**

**The Lord smiled and replied, "Not only will she be able to think, she will be able to reason, and negotiate."**

**The Angel then noticed something and reached out and touched the woman's cheek. "Oops, it looks like you have a leak with this model. I told you that you were trying to put too much into this one."**

**"That's not a leak." The Lord objected. "That is a tear."**

**"What's the tear for?" the Angel asked.**

**The Lord said, "The tear is her way of expressing her joy, her sorrow, her disappointment, her pain, her loneliness, her grief, and her pride."  
The Angel was impressed. "You are a genius, Lord. You thought of everything!  
Truly, You do all things well... Moms are truly amazing!"**)

**-When you were young, did you ever wonder why your mother seemed to have eyes in the back of her head? (...) Now we all know! ☺**

**-Even though this story makes us smile, it is a picture of how well God knows each one of us. He lovingly created us and understands our deepest needs and provides the strengths we need to face those needs or trials.**

**-To help us understand this more, we are going to look at Psalm 139 together. Let's go to our first verse on our Verse Sheet and read it together: (NIV Psalm 139:13 "For You created my inmost being; You knit me together in my mother's womb.")**

**-Who is the psalmist (David) talking to here? (God)**

**-And what did God do? (Created our inmost being. Knitted us together.)**

**-When you think of your "inmost being" what do you think that means? (Your heart, your soul, your personality, what makes you who we are.)**

**-Is everyone the same? (No, we are each individually wired from birth.)**

**-According to this verse, God personally created your inmost being. He knew exactly what *you* were going to need to handle what *you* were going to face in life and He knitted it together while you were in your mother's womb.**

**-Believe it or not, He didn't just leave you up to chance. Just as in this story of His creating a mother, He created you with the strengths you would need to face life, sometimes tough, with Him at your side.**

**-Let's read our second verse together: (Psalm 139:14 "I praise You because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Your works are wonderful, I know that full well.")**

**-At the beginning of this verse, what did David say He was doing? (Praising God for making him the way He did.)**

**-Do you sometimes complain of your physical or emotional makeup? (...)**

**-Do you think this is honoring to God? Why or why not? (No, because He fearfully and wonderfully made each of us.)**

**-According to David, what should we be doing instead? (Praising Him)**

**-When we think that we are fearfully and wonderfully made by God, unique in so many ways and an original masterpiece with our own special abilities and purpose, how should that make us feel about ourselves? (Hopefully special, that we are created for a purpose!)**

**-What does that tell us about how God feels about us? (That He loves us and wanted to create each one of us.)**

**-Let's read our next verse together, #3 on our Verse Sheet:** (Psalm 139:15 "My frame was not hidden from You when I was made in the secret place, when I was woven together in the depths of the earth.")

**-Who again was watching over us as we were being created?** (God)

**-Think about this, when we were hidden from *all* human knowledge, before our mothers even knew, God was there! He was intimately acquainted with us and *wanting* to be there with us, skillfully creating us to be the individuals we are today. How does that make you feel about yourself?** (Hopefully loved and with a purpose!)

**-Let's continue to read what He has to say about us. Let's read together #4 on our Verse Sheet:** (Psalm 139:16 "Your eyes saw my unformed body; all the days ordained for me were written in Your book before one of them came to be.")

**-What do you think it means when it says "Your eyes saw my unformed body"?** (God's very own eyes saw our unformed body! He saw our spirit before we even had any part of our body. God saw us when we could not be seen by anyone else, and He wrote about us in His own book when there was nothing of us to write about.)

**-How does that make you feel about how important you are to God?** (...)

**-Let's read our next verse on our Verse Sheet together, #5:** (Psalm 139:17 "How precious to me are your thoughts, God! How vast is the sum of them!")

**-According to this verse, how much does God think about us?** (Vastly, beyond measure!)

**-Do you ever wonder if anyone is ever thinking about you at all?** (...)

**-This is God's promise to us that He is always thinking of us. He is thinking of us when we are facing trials, when we are lonely, when we are discouraged and when we are scared. He is always thinking of us and He is always near!**

**-Our last verse reminds us of this, let's read it together on our Verse Sheet, #6:** (Psalm 139:18 "Were I to count (God's thoughts), they would outnumber the grains of sand – when I awake, I am still with you!")

**-Can you measure God's thoughts?** (...)

**-What does the writer compare them to?** (They outnumber the grains of sand.)

**-How you ever been to the ocean and tried to count a handful of sand?**

**-It's almost impossible! Imagine all the sand in the world! So, according to this, God is thinking of you all the time! For here and into eternity!**

**-The last part of this verse says, "when I awake, *I am still with you!*"**

**-What is the psalmist David trying to tell us here?** (That we are never away from God, whether we are sleeping or awake. Since the moment He brought us into existence, He has always been there and will always be there. In trials, in struggles, in whatever life may bring, He is there walking with us through them all and giving us the strength day by day to live it with Him. He is our light, our hope and our salvation!)

**-As we end today, I hope you are encouraged to know that the Maker of Heaven and Earth has also wonderfully created you and wants to be with you. Thinking of you all the time and lovingly watching over you wherever you are. On the back of our Verse Sheet is a poem I would like us all to read together. It was written from our Psalm today and I hope it will bless you and remind you of how much He loves you.**

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**VERSE SHEET**

- 1. Psalm 139:13 “For You created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother’s womb.”**
- 2. Psalm 139:14 “I praise You because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Your works are wonderful, I know that full well.”**
- 3. Psalm 139:15 “My frame was not hidden from You when I was made in the secret place, when I was woven together in the depths of the earth.”**
- 4. Psalm 139:16 “Your eyes saw my unformed body; all the days ordained for me were written in Your book before one of them came to be.”**
- 5. Psalm 139:17 “How precious to me are your thoughts, God! How vast is the sum of them!”**
- 6. Psalm 139:18 “Were I to count (God’s thoughts), they would outnumber the grains of sand – when I awake, *I am still* with you!”**

**Fearfully and Wonderfully Made  
God's Masterpiece  
By: Deborah Ann Belka**

**You are a Masterpiece,  
A portrayal of pure love  
For you are put together  
By the Creator up above!**

**You are a work of genius,  
God knew just what to do  
For He put His very image  
And Heart inside of you.**

**You are a picture perfect,  
You look like no other one.  
For God's portrait of you  
Is in the likeness of His Son!**

**You are a work of art,  
Every line He has detailed  
For your very frame  
He has pared and scaled.**

**You are a masterpiece  
A stunning success...  
God's handiwork at its best  
Because you, He has blessed!**