

# GOD KNOWS YOU

by Abri Brancken , 12 Mar 2017

## **SCRIPTURE PASSAGE**

### **Psalm 139:1-24, New Century Version (NCV)**

1. Lord, you have examined me and know all about me.
- 2 You know when I sit down and when I get up. You know my thoughts before I think them.
- 3 You know where I go and where I lie down. You know everything I do.
- 4 Lord, even before I say a word, you already know it.
- 5 You are all around me—in front and in back— and have put your hand on me.
- 6 Your knowledge is amazing to me; it is more than I can understand.
- 7 Where can I go to get away from your Spirit? Where can I run from you?
- 8 If I go up to the heavens, you are there. If I lie down in the grave, you are there.
- 9 If I rise with the sun in the east and settle in the west beyond the sea,
- 10 even there you would guide me. With your right hand you would hold me.
- 11 I could say, "The darkness will hide me. Let the light around me turn into night."
- 12 But even the darkness is not dark to you. The night is as light as the day; darkness and light are the same to you.
- 13 You made my whole being; you formed me in my mother's body.
- 14 I praise you because you made me in an amazing and wonderful way. What you have done is wonderful. I know this very well.
- 15 You saw my bones being formed as I took shape in my mother's body. When I was put together there,
- 16 you saw my body as it was formed. All the days planned for me were written in your book before I was one day old.
- 17 God, your thoughts are precious to me. They are so many!
- 18 If I could count them, they would be more than all the grains of sand. When I wake up, I am still with you.
- 19 God, I wish you would kill the wicked! Get away from me, you murderers!
- 20 They say evil things about you. Your enemies use your name thoughtlessly.
- 21 Lord, I hate those who hate you; I hate those who rise up against you.
- 22 I feel only hate for them; they are my enemies.
- 23 God, examine me and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts.
- 24 See if there is any bad thing in me. Lead me on the road to everlasting life.

## **THE "MASK WEARING" CULTURE WE ARE LIVING IN**

We live in a culture where most people wear masks, where we live to impress others while hiding who we really are. We hide those parts we don't want people to see and we present to people what we think they want to see about us. Most of us are very good in hiding our insecurities, fears, failures, etc.

Living a make-believe lifestyle breeds loneliness. We wear these masks with good reason. We have all felt our fair share of pain and rejection. Yet, we still want to be known for our true selves.

## **SOCIAL MEDIA**

We live in a time where people are more connected than ever before, yet they are lonelier than ever before. Our touch screens have caused us to lose touch. We live in a world of false realities. Twitter, WeChat, Facebook, Instagram, and Pinterest all offer an alternate view of who we are as individuals. We can choose what to publish and what to hide. Even posting “real photos” like a messy room or a not so flattering selfie are a far cry from showing the multifaceted and emotional life of who we are.

We allow people to see what we want them to see and know of ourselves, not what reality really is. On social media, we are safe from vulnerability, risk of failure, and have complete control of the image we portray of ourselves.

## **THE GREAT TRUTH IS – GOD KNOWS YOU**

One of the Bible's greatest truths is that God knows all about every one of us. You cannot hide anything from God. You cannot wear a mask. You cannot present to God that which you want Him to see. We often think we can and we even try, but God sees beyond the make pretend image we want Him to see. God even knows the things we don't know about ourselves.

We are limited – but He is not  
We are finite – but He is not.  
We know very little – but He knows everything.  
We are imperfect – but He is perfect.

Does the fact that God knows everything about you make you uncomfortable? It could – because it means He knows all about your sins and your failings. But it also should give you great comfort, because it means He cares about you and is concerned about what happens to you.

In Psalm 139 we read that God knows everything.

### **Psalm 139:1-24, (NCV)**

1. Lord, you have examined me and know all about me.  
2 You know when I sit down and when I get up. You know my thoughts before I think them.

God has perfect knowledge of us, and all our thoughts and actions are open before him. He knows what rule we walk by, what end we walk toward, what company we walk with. When I am withdrawn from all company, He knows what you have in your heart. Every word, every thought is known by God.

Wherever we are, we are under the eye and hand of God. Our magnificent Creator God knows everything and is the source of all true knowledge, understanding, and wisdom. His knowledge is undefiled by any distortions or wrong perspectives. It is totally true and accurate.

God is never surprised or bewildered because He is always completely aware of all events past, present, and future. He also knows everything about you—your desires, motives, and thoughts. Yes, it is true, God knows more about you than you will ever know about yourself.

## **GOD UNDERSTAND YOUR CHALLENGES**

He knows what you're going through, why you're going through it and how you feel about it. When you face challenges or difficulties, you can be encouraged that God understands what you are going through. He knows about your pressures and problems, and He also knows the purpose for your trials.

## **MANKIND OFTEN TRIES TO HIDE FROM GOD**

Because we know about our failures, we often try to hide from God. Adam and Eve tried to hide from God when they discovered how sinful they were.

### **Genesis 3:8-10**

8 They heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.

9 Then the LORD God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?"

10 He said, "I heard the sound of You in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid myself."...

We expect that God is going to react the same way that people do in discovering who we really are and therefore we often try to hide from God. Because God is Omniscient, He acts perfectly every time. All His ways are just.

You may be afraid to get close to Jesus because you think he's going to scold you for all the things you've done wrong and therefore you hide your heart from Him. The thing is this, you cannot hide anything from God.

### **Hebrews 4:13**

And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are open and laid bare to the eyes of Him with whom we have to do.

### **Jeremiah 23:24**

"Can a man hide himself in hiding places So I do not see him?" declares the LORD "Do I not fill the heavens and the earth?" declares the LORD

## **GOD STANDS OUTSIDE OF TIME & IS NOT LIMITED**

God is not limited by time and space.

### **Isaiah 46:9-10**

Remember the former things, those of long ago; I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like me. I make known the end from the beginning, from ancient times, what is still to come. I say: My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I please

He is not limited to the things that limit us.

## **COME TO GOD WITH CONFIDENCE**

God is the only one who accepts us truly as we are, without requiring anything else of us than just to be in relationship with him. Because God is so great and because He knows everything, we can have confidence in His ability to love, care, lead and protect us. God wants us to be ourselves before Him.

What mask are you wearing?

- **Masks to cover pain**

These are the smiling masks we wear when everything in our lives is crashing down around us.

- **Masks to cover shame**

These are masks that scream self-confidence or pride in material possessions, even when the person wearing them feels worthless.

- **Masks to cover sin**

Are you secretly sinning and hiding it from God? Repent

- **Masks to cover fear**

Do you hide your fears from God? He knows your fears and can set you free.

- **Masks to cover failure**

Are you wearing a mask in your relationship with God to cover your failure and to impress Him? Stop it, He knows you.

Before God we all stand naked and bare. Who is the real you? That is the person with whom God wants to have a relationship with. Knowing we are welcome into God's arms just as we are freeing us from trying to live by unrealistic standards and empowers us to begin to take off our masks and live lives of authenticity.

### **Luke 12:2, Message**

"You can't keep your true self hidden forever; before long you'll be exposed. You can't hide behind a religious mask forever; sooner or later the mask will slip and your true face will be known."