

God Forms all the Day's Psalms 139:16

Sermon 3

May 19, 2020

The Old Testament consists of three sections..

The first seventeen books are the are the history and had to do with the past..

The last seventeen books are the prophetic writings and had to do with the future..

In between the two we have this section of four writings called the wisdom literature..

The king of the wisdom books would be psalms..

These wisdom books in the middle are referred to as the present..

In other words when we enter into the psalms or wisdom books we enter into the now with God..

It's what happening now.. They are referred to as the present before God now section of the old testament..

We see King David in Psalms 51 pouring his heart out and it is if though we are right with him as he is

***doing so... We are let in on his and Gods
conversation firsthand... let's look quickly at it..***

Pp 1

Psalms 51:1-12

For the choir director: A psalm of David, regarding the time Nathan the prophet came to him after David had committed adultery with Bathsheba.

Have mercy on me, O God, because of your unfailing love. Because of your great compassion, blot out the stain of my sins. (2) Wash me clean from my guilt. Purify me from my sin.

(3) For I recognize my rebellion; it haunts me day and night. (4) Against you, and you alone, have I sinned; I have done what is evil in your sight. You will be proved right in what you say, and your judgment against me is just.

(5) For I was born a sinner—yes, from the moment my mother conceived me. (6) But you desire honesty from the womb, teaching me wisdom even there.

(7) Purify me from my sins, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow. (8) Oh, give me back my joy again; you have broken me—now let me rejoice. (9) Don't keep looking at my sins. Remove the stain of my guilt.

(10) Create in me a clean heart, O God. Renew a loyal spirit within me. (11) Do not banish me from your presence, and don't take your Holy Spirit from me.

(12) Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and make me willing to obey you.

We can feel the presence of God and David here as if it s happening now!!!

I wonder if he knew this was being written down...? Like forever?

So we have here these treasures of wisdom in the Old Testament of the seemingly present or now.. we see this "in the now"

I want us to look in verse 16 of Psalms 139... King Davis says..

Pp 2

Psalm 139:16 a

...

In your book were written, every one of them, Wait a minute, in what book and when and what was written, and what is every one of them...?

Pp 3

Psalms 139: 16 b

the days that were formed for me,
when as yet there was none of them (ESV).

This verse tells us that God has more than one book... Of course our bible is God's word and His book given to us to find redemption and then to live the redeemed life.. But God has more than one book.

We find another one in Revelation 21:27.. Referring to the new Jerusalem our new heaven,

Pp 4

But nothing unclean will ever enter it, nor anyone who does what is detestable or false, but only those who are written in ***the Lamb's book of life*** (Revelation 21:27 ESV).

And, if we go back to verse 5 of Chapter 3 we see Jesus addressing the church at Sardis stating...

Pp 5

The one who conquers will be clothed thus in white garments, and I will never blot his name out of ***the book***

of life. I will confess his name before my Father and before His angels (Revelation 3:5 ESV).

So here is our book the Bible, , another book being the book of Life (Lambs book of life), but here in Psalms 139:16 we find yet another book we will call the "book of future days".. Our proof of this book is here in Psalms 139:16

Pp 6

In your book were written, every one of them, ***the days that were formed for me***, when as yet there was none of them (Psalm 139:16).

The first point I want to get from this verse is that

1. God has planned our future days in detail

I used to read this verse and just understand that I would live to a certain date and then die and God knows the day this will happen and how it will happen.. And that is true...

However, if we look at the verse more closely I believe it tells us much more than that...

It seems to say that God has planned the details of each of our days including the day leading up to our death... Let's read it again..

The verse says

Pp 7

"in your book were written every one of them"

"Every one of them" points to every day, not just the one day we die... Every one of the days we live including the one in which we pass on to be with Him... Every one of them, written in His Book.. Your autobiography written and planned by God... Amazing!

We see elsewhere in the Old Testament about other books written of "every day" of others..

A record of events often of Kings in the kingdom days..

Pp 8

1 Kings 11:41 ESV Now the rest of the acts of Solomon, and all that he did, and his wisdom, **are they not written in the Book of the Acts of Solomon?**

pp 9

1 Kings 14:19 ESV Now the rest of the acts of Jeroboam, how he warred and how he reigned, behold, they are written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Israel.

Pp 10

1 Kings 15:23 ESV Now the rest of all the acts of Asa, all his might, and all that he did, and the cities that he built, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Judah? But in his old age he was diseased in his feet.

There is an interesting word here in this verse helping us see that God was in the details of our life each day and look at this...we need to look at... And it is the verb "formed"...

Pp 11

In your book were written, every one of them, the days that were **formed** for me,
when as yet **there was none of them** (Psalm 139:16).

Not only is God planning the details of each day for me, they were formed when there was none of

them...

***The word formed is the Hebrew word Yatshar...
Yatshar means to form, fashion, frame something
with divine purpose and passion in detail...***

Here are some other places it was used..

Pp 12

Genesis 2:7 ESV

then the LORD God ***formed*** the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature.

Pp 13

Now out of the ground the LORD God had ***formed*** every beast of the field and every bird of the heavens and brought them to the man to see what he would call them. And whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. Genesis 2:19

Pp 14

The sea is His, for He made it, and His hands ***formed*** the dry land. Psalms 95:5

Pp 15

He who planted the ear, does he not hear? He who **formed** the eye, does he not see? Psalms 94:9

He formed out of the dust man. He formed out of the ground the beasts of the field and birds of the heavens , His hands formed the dry land and He formed the eye to see..

Each of these verses talk about how God formed in great detail and power and wisdom creatures for His glory and for our amazement and wonder.... So when it says God formed our days, He Yatshar' formed them ..meaning each day was fashioned and framed with Divine purpose with great passion in power and detail... let me read the verse again...

Pp 16

***In your book (oh God) were written,
every one of them,***

What was written being every one of them?

the days that were **formed** for me,

When were they Yatsar/formed fashioned in Divine power, wisdom, and in great detail?

when as yet ***there was none of them***

(Psalm 139:16).

God has used the same wisdom, the same skills, the same omnipotent power in forming your days ahead of time before the occur...

This makes Psalms 139:13-18 take on more meaning in our minds...

Pp 17

For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb.

(14) I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well (Psalms 139:13-14).

God saw you before you were born. Every day of your life was recorded in His book.

Every moment was laid out before a single day had passed.

Look at verse 17 and 18.. Here is what He thought about you after forming your days...

Pp 18

(17) How precious are your thoughts about me, O God. They cannot be numbered!

(18) I can't even count them; they outnumber the grains of sand! And when I wake up, you are still with me!

Psalms 139:17-18

Do you believe God has planned the rest of this day and what will happen to you and me in regard to the present pandemic being the corona virus..

I believe this verse says He does and it gives me great peace and I hope this gives you peace as well.

This pandemic did not get past our all-powerful, all present, and all-knowing sovereign Lord... and He did not forget to weave this day accordingly with this corona virus in mind as He formed you before you were born..

So what will happen?

Maybe I won't get corona virus..

Maybe I will get it but have no symptoms

Maybe Ill get it and the symptoms will be mild

Maybe Ill get it and the symptoms will be severe

and God will have formed this day to be with me to strengthen me and comfort me..

Or, Maybe I'll get corona virus and die as this is what God has planned for me when all the days were Yatshar or formed and I'll be forever with Him in heaven..

That wouldn't be so bad now would it?

In you book were written for me every one of them the days formed for me and yet there were none of them..

So God has planned our future days in detail and

2. I also believe that God's plans for you and me are good.

Pp 19

And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to His purpose (Romans 8:28).

In the events of our days, God has planned for our good and as we are called according to his purpose and His purpose is forever good

There are several other verses that I believe are relevant...being that God desires the best for your and my life. Jeremiah 29:11 tells us and affirms this goodness..

Jeremiah was writing to the exiles in Babylon who had been captured and taken there from their homeland and were under much stress and disoriented ...

Pp 20

“For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.” (Jeremiah 29:11)

God allowed the prophet to look into the future and give his people a hope and an assurance of a future.

That word welfare translated to Hebrew is shalom the word we get peace from...

It is not just the absence of conflict but to be in peace in relationship with ourselves , peace with others, and peace with God..

A safety and peace of such provide a life worth living...

This is the kind of peace God desires us to have And makes available through union with God the son, delivered by God the Holy Spirit

I'm not saying we are not going to go through difficult times such as now and that all will be easy, it won't...

But God will be with us and give us peace

and comfort in all our trials... May our faith increase as we walk with Him through these times..

God's plans are good..

- 1. So God has planned our future days in detail***
- 2. God's plans are good for us and ...***
- 3. God's plans for you include premade opportunities to do good for others...***

We see this in Ephesians 2:10

IN verse 8 and 9 we see that God saved us by his grace when we believed.

We can't take credit for this because it is a from God. We cant even boast about it as salvation is not a reward for the good we have done..

However, because we are now a new creation in Christ....

Pp 21

we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them (Ephesians 2:10).

You are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he has planned for us long ago.

And , in God's book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me and you,

Planned in detail, plans that were good, plans that are premade, when as yet there was none of them

...

Plans premade, empowered by God the Holy Spirit to be good works for others showing the love and glory of God..

That's all good pastor but what does that mean He has created me for good works beforehand?

(DEBBIE CAMINO PREPARATION EXAMPLE)

This is something like God preparing works for us beforehand..

I don't know if it has happened to you but you make a phone call to someone and that person on the other end says; "I was just thinking of calling you"..

Or you were praying for someone and hope to meet with them and you bump into them at the grocery store or at some event..

A lot of times events like this happen in our lives and I think we should keep this verse in mind..

He created us for good works which were created beforehand...that we should walk in them..

So God has our future days written in His book ,

and His plans for us are good, and not only are they good but may also include premade opportunities for us to do good for others..

I want to invite us to be mindful and watch for those opportunities He has premade for us to walk in guided by His Holy Spirit even this day...

Be kind to someone, be generous, help to calm someone's fears..., pray for someone, or make a phone call to someone who needs attention or has concerns..

These are works that God has prepared beforehand..

I know what some might be thinking as I go over this premade or preplanned days of life sermon as before yet there was one of them..

This reasoning begs the question as such...

If it is true that God has formed and written in His book the future details of our days, then how can

our choices make any difference..

My first response to this question is that no one in the history of the world has figured out an answer to that question..

We also know that the bible teaches that God is sovereign meaning all knowing, absolute, and supreme in all ways over all the world and our lives..

This verse teaches us that

Pp 3

In your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them (Psalms 139:16).

Hundreds of verses in the bible teach us our choices do matter..

We have the choices to believe or not to believe in Jesus for eternal life..

We have the choice to follow the Spirit or flesh and on and on..

Our choices effect the way events in our lives and the events in the lives of others turnout..

King David himself considered or confronted this thought earlier in Psalms 139 verse 6...

In the beginning verses of chapter 1 David says..

Psalms 139:2-6

You (Lord) know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from afar. You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways.

Pp 22

(4) Even before a word is on my tongue, behold, O LORD, you know it altogether.

How can that be? How can David or you or I choose what words to speak when God knows what

word you are going to speak ahead of time?

I thought.. you know that's simple to understand.. Debbie knows what I'm going to say many times before I say it.. Ill start and she can finish my words and I chose to speak them...

But, rather than depend on our marriage to solve this, lets look at scripture...I think David gives us the answer in verse 6....David says

Pp 23

(6) Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high; I cannot attain it (Psalms 139:6).

In other words, God hasn't given us the answer..

Yet, God is sovereign over all matters and yes, we have a choice that matters as both are taught in scripture..

This is not difficult for God to understand, its difficult for us as we do not know the mind of God..

So its yes, yes... Yes we choose and yes He knows what we will choose...

We must rely on them fully and completely as this is taught in God's word..

Here is some good advice I got from Dr Grudem year ago...

When you can't figure out how things fit together in the bible that aren't clear, ultimately it's just a good practice to obey what you do know that is clear..

And here is what is clear...

If you make choices to obey God and trust in Him you will discover that He has planned blessings for you as yo walk with Him

And, if you make choices to disobey and not trust God then you will discover he has planned a difficult path for you to walk..

I think something of the solution comes in the fact that God has in His plans taken into

***account the choices we are going to make..
That's about as far as we can go in this
interpretation..***

There is good advice in an old hymn titled Trust and Obey ...

***1. When we walk with the Lord
In the light of His Word,
What a glory He sheds on our way!
Let us do His good will;
He abides with us still,
And with all who will trust and obey.
(Refrain)***

Refrain:

***Trust and obey,
For there's no other way
To be happy in Jesus,
But to trust and obey.***

Ending of sermon summary,,,

