

Th131 God's Plan

Lesson Th131 – 4 God Is All

In our first three lessons we learned that God is eternal, that God is light, and that God is holy. In this lesson we will learn that God is all powerful, all knowing, and in all places at once.

David of Bethlehem was the second king of Israel. Many consider him to be the greatest king of Israel. But he was not born in a palace and educated by the best minds. David was born into a modest family and spent his early years as a shepherd watching over a flock of sheep for his father, Jesse. Shepherds would often lead their sheep many miles in search of green pasture and water. Sometimes the journey took them far enough away from home that the shepherds would have to spend the night in the distant fields. The shepherds would have to remain awake late into the evening keeping watch over the flock to keep it safe. David said that once he had to kill a lion and on another occasion he killed a bear in order to protect his flock. Hour after hour he would sit watching his sheep, playing songs on his lyre, and pondering the God who had created the universe.

Can you imagine what it must have been like for David? Can you imagine him sitting on a rock and looking up into the night sky and marveling at the vastness of the universe? David knew that God had created the universe. The very first verse in the Bible says "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth." What a magnificent and powerful God David served! His God had created everything. As David sat looking up into the sky he probably tried to count the stars. But there were too many.

Scientists tell us that there are more stars in the sky than all of the grains of sand on all the beaches in the entire world! The universe is beyond imagination and God created it! We say that God is all powerful. That means that his power has no limit.

This all powerful God also knows all. He knows everything that has ever happened, everything that is happening right this instant, and He also already knows everything that is going to happen in the future. There are many places in the Bible that reveal that He indeed knows everything.

God is all powerful, all knowing, and He also is all present. He is everywhere at once. How is this possible? The answer is simple, He is God. For some people this is not enough. How can two things, that is, God and the universe, exist in the same place at the same time? And if God is everywhere at once, why can't we see him?

A glass filled with water has a simple taste. It is clear and we can see through it, but not necessarily see everything in it. If we place sugar into the water it soon disappears. Where does it go? The sugar dissolves into very small pieces that become totally mixed throughout the water. But the water is still clear. We can see the water but we cannot see the sugar. How can we prove that the sugar is in the water? By tasting it! The water is now sweet. Some might argue that the water and the sugar have become one. But if we were to remove the water by boiling it away, we would find that the sugar is still there. God is everywhere at once.

And perhaps it was these very aspects of God that David contemplated as he sat on the hillside looking up into the night sky. His fingers brushed against the strings of his harp-like instrument called a lyre. He hummed a simple melody as he tried to put into words the majesty of God. Later, as king of Israel, he would complete this song and give it to the royal choir conductor to be performed in worship. This song is found in the book of Psalms. It is the 139th song. Listen to the first half of King David's song:

“LORD, you have tested me, so you know all about me.
You know when I sit down and when I get up.
You know my thoughts from far away.
You know where I go and where I lie down.
You know everything I do.
LORD, you know what I want to say, even before the words leave my mouth.
You are all around me—in front of me and behind me.
I feel your hand on my shoulder.
I am amazed at what you know; it is too much for me to understand.
Your Spirit is everywhere I go.
I cannot escape your presence.
If I go up to heaven, you will be there.
If I go down to the place of death, you will be there.
If I go east where the sun rises or go to live in the west beyond the sea even there you will take my hand and lead me.
Your strong right hand will protect me.
Suppose I wanted to hide from you and said, ‘Surely the darkness will hide me.
The day will change to night and cover me.’
Even the darkness is not dark to you.
The night is as bright as the day.
Darkness and light are the same.
You formed the way I think and feel.
You put me together in my mother’s womb.
I praise you because you made me in such a wonderful way.
I know how amazing that was!
You could see my bones grow as my body took shape, hidden in my mother’s womb.
You could see my body grow each passing day.
You listed all my parts, and not one of them was missing.
Your thoughts are beyond my understanding.
They cannot be measured!
If I could count them, they would be more than all the grains of sand.
But when I finished, I would have just begun.”

This lesson is **important** because it teaches us that there is no place or time when God is not aware of us and our needs.

The **main truth** of this lesson is that God is all powerful, all knowing, and in all places at once.

The **review** questions for this lesson are:

1. What did David realize as a shepherd when he saw the night sky? [Pause]
A. If you answered that David knew the all-powerful God had created the universe, you answered correctly.
2. What example was used to teach that God is present even though we cannot see Him? [Pause]
A. If you said, "When sugar is dissolved in water it cannot be seen, but we can taste it when we drink it, you are correct.
3. What truth does Psalm 139:1 tell us about what God knows? [Pause]
A. If you said, "LORD, you have tested me, so you know all about me," you are right.

Your **assignment** is to replay this lesson two or three times until you not only understand it, but can repeat that God is all powerful, all knowing, and everywhere present. You are to memorize the following three verses:

"For nothing will be impossible with God" (Luke 1:37).

"Even before there is a word on my tongue, behold, O Lord, You know it all" (Psalm 139:4).

"If I ascend to heaven, you are there; if I make my bed in the grave, behold you are there" (Psalm 139:8).

After you have memorized these three verses and fully understand the principles that God is all powerful, all knowing, and all present, teach this lesson to someone else.