

Date: February 10, 2013

Subject: Wonderfully Made - Ps. 139:14

"I will praise Thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: Marvellous are Thy works; and that my soul knows right well." Psalm 139:14

In The beginning of this Psalm, David expresses his deep awe about God's presence. Everywhere David is, there is God. In this, David finds comfort and gratitude, and as he is in amazement at how truly great God is, it's as though he reflects upon how detailed God has even made David^{himself}, so his heart is overflowing with love and gratitude to God, and as he was moved by the Holy Spirit, he wrote, "I will praise Thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: Marvellous are Thy works; and that my soul knows right well."

When we contemplate God's creation; whether we consider the biggest things like the sun, the earth, and other planets; all the way down to molecules and atoms - praise is inevitable - only some ^{will} praise man, while others will praise God. David was of the latter, "I will praise Thee;" he writes, "for I am fearfully

and wonderfully made". The Hebrew word translated "fearfully" is "yārē" and doesn't suggest that others should fear David; but that David, is inspired to a reverential fear of God by considering how complex he has been made. The awesome power of God is displayed throughout the whole creation and we need not look any farther, than the amazing bodies each of us has. The expanse of space, the depth of the sea, the countless number of animals, insects, fish, etc.; we can go so far in our amazement of God's creation and how it all gives us a deeper reverence of just how wise, powerful, and awesome God is; yet how easily do we ~~forget~~ ^{forget} this amazing part of His creation - our bodies - which, as David goes on to say are, "wonderfully made."

The Hebrew is "pālā" meaning, "wonderful, marvelous, amazing, astounding." Here David uses "pālā" to describe the intricate fabric of his body, in Psalm 139:5 David uses it to speak of everything that God has done, especially of his salvation and answered prayers:

"Many, O LORD my God, are Thy wonderful works ["pālā"] which Thou hast done."

Have you ever considered how your heart is pumping without you "thinking" about it? There are very many things our bodies are doing that we are not even aware of. For example, have you ever seen pus around a dirty splinter? We don't usually think much of it, but a very complex process is taking place.

We have white blood cells in our body called leucocytes (pronounced like "Loo-Kugh-sights"); these leucocytes travel freely throughout our body to fight infections. Once the leucocytes detect a foreign substance into the body, they rush there to fight against ~~and~~ harmful bacteria. These little cells (i.e. the leucocytes) not only die while fighting the bad bacteria, but they situate themselves in a way so that their dead body blocks further bacteria from entering the body, these dead "bodies" ~~are~~ of the leucocytes are what we know as pus. Sometimes we hear people say it's "nature's band-aid;" but no, nature is not an entity, but is part of God's creation. It is God who loves us and heals us, those leucocyte cells - and every other function of our body, and all the world - doesn't control themselves, but it is GOD who controls all these things. Acts 17:28 says,

"For in Him we live, and move, and have our being."

Our bodies don't heal themselves, God heals them. There are so many things that happen to us that we are oblivious to, but God is caring for us even when we don't know it. We won't live forever here, the Bible says that our outward man is perishing (cf. 2 Cor. 4:16), but there is another world to come, a new heaven and a new earth "and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain" (Rev. 21:4), when we will finally be rid of the effects of sin, do you long for that my dear friend? Have you forgotten that this world is not your home? Jesus has gone to prepare a mansion for you, an incorruptible inheritance that is reserved in heaven for you (1 Pet. 1:4). Isn't that amazing? Isn't that awesome?

Just think, David lived thousands of years ago; before X-rays and CAT scans, ^{before} microscopes and all these other technological advancements that we have today. Yet even way back then, David appreciated the wisdom of God, David was inspired

to draw closer to his God by faith, David was able to look at the complexities of his body and be ~~humbled~~ humbled and awed, and with a heart full of warm gratitude to God say,

"I will praise Thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: Marvellous are Thy works; and that my soul knows right well." Psalm 139:14

Won't you do the same....? If His goodness - revealed by faith - is just a foretaste of what's to come, how truly wonderful will it be? If in this life, with bodies of clay, are "wonderfully made," how much more greater will our spiritual bodies be (1 Cor. 15:44)?

Praise God for our Saviour - Jesus Christ!

Your servant for Jesus' sake,

Rev. D. W. W.