



24 April 2026

Where can I go?

In Psalm 139 King David prayed to God,

“Where can I go from Your Spirit?
Or where can I flee from Your presence?”

He wasn’t satisfied with just the overall question, so he gave God some examples.

“If I ascend to heaven, You are there; if I make my bed in Sheol, behold, You are there. If I take up the wings of the dawn, if I dwell in the remotest part of the sea, even there Your hand will lead me, and Your right hand will take hold of me. If I say, ‘Surely the darkness will overwhelm me, and the light around me will be night,’ even darkness is not dark to You, and the night is as bright as the day. Darkness and light are alike to You.”



David knew the answer—there was nowhere he could go where God would not be with him. Everywhere he could go, God would be with him there.

Years ago one person told me David’s opening question and examples caused him concern, led him to being fearful. You see, his impression was that God was always watching and judging him, always watching and condemning him. But David made it clear that this was not the case, was not his point. He was in awe of God for His always, everywhere attention and care for him. So, later in the Psalm he told God,

“How precious also are Your thoughts for me, God! How vast is the sum of them!
Were I to count them, they would outnumber the sand. When I awake, I am still with You” (17-18).

His accurate view of God’s presence is in sharp contrast to that of Adam in the garden after he sinned and God came to meet with him. He told God, “I heard the sound of You in the garden, and

I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid myself.” Adam was trying to hide from God because of his sin, but that was not possible. King David was not trying to run away from God, but was rejoicing in the fact that no matter where he was or what was happening in his life — be it a hard place, a trying experience, a huge challenge or a small detail — God his Shepherd, Provider and Defender was with Him. He was never alone. He was never on his own.

David went on to recall God’s all-powerful, creative nature, including creating him, creating us. He took comfort and rejoiced in this. He told God, “Your eyes have seen my formless substance; and in Your book were written all the days that were ordained for me, when as yet there was not one of them” (16).

As he celebrated the great grace of God’s power and care he concluded,

“Search me, God, and know my heart; put me to the test and know my anxious thoughts; and see if there is any hurtful way in me, and lead me in the everlasting way” (23-24)

Where can you and I go where God will not be there with us? Nowhere! Sovereign God is committed to know and care for you and lead you “in the way everlasting.” Thank Him! Rejoice! Rely on Him!

Pastor Lyle