



# ***THE EXHORTER***

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***“And with many other words did he testify and exhort, saying, Save yourselves from this untoward generation.” Acts 2:40***

The Palmer Road church of Christ, Westland, Mi. ([prchurchofchrist.org](http://prchurchofchrist.org))

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## **Jump Start # 368**

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***Psalms 139:1-4 “O Lord, You have searched me and known me. You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you understand my thought from afar. You scrutinize my path and my lying down, and are intimately acquainted with all my ways. Even before there is a word on my tongue, behold, O Lord, you know it all.”***

This passage is written by David. He is thinking about God. He is thinking about God thinking about him. He realizes that God knows Him. God knows everything he does. God knows what David is going to say, even before David says it. God knows when David is sitting, walking, or on a journey. A couple of verses later, David said, “Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, it is too high, I cannot attain to it” (v. 6).

When we get to where David was in his thinking, we too will marvel about God.

We realize that it wasn't just David, but it is with everyone. God knows us all that way. How can He do that? We'd think, 'it's impossible to know that about everyone.' Not God. We've limited just how big He is. God knows you. God knows what TV shows you watch. God knows what you text to other people. God knows what you whisper under your breath and no one heard you. He did. God knows what you're thinking. He knows you.

That thought alone can be scary. Few people know everything about us, even our mates. Sometimes we are not our self and our mates will ask us, 'What's bothering you?' They don't know. God does.

Now this leads us to some greater thoughts. First, God knows us and still loves us.

That is more remarkable to me than the thought that He knows everything. Some people are very private about their lives. They don't share much with others. Some just don't want others to know. With others, it's a fear that once you really knew them, you wouldn't like them. Not God. He knows you. He knows you better than anyone else. And He still loves you.

Secondly, there is no surprising God. We have this idea somehow, that if I confess my true thoughts and feelings and really named my sins that God would run in horror from me. He knows. He already knows. There is nothing you can say that He doesn't know. He's not going to be shocked. Why then confess to Him? Because it makes us to be honest with ourselves. He leads us to being humble and it helps us seek the mercy and forgiveness of God. He knows.

Thirdly, this passage tells me why I need to pray to God. He knows. He understands. Who better to help, than God. I can talk to a friend, but they don't know. They may not really understand. God does. My friend may not be in the position to do anything to help me. God is. We need to talk to God more. We need to talk to God more personally. We need to realize that He is not against us, but rather for us.

Fourthly, our verses reveal to us that we are never alone. God is always aware. God is there. He knows. We are never ever alone. God, who loves us and is our friend, is there. He knows where you are. He knows what is happening to you. What comfort and strength there is in that thought.

Finally, wouldn't it be amazing to know God as He knows us? We never will fully. But the Bible reveals to us God's mind and heart. It is through the Bible that we can learn God. We see how God acts...there is a predictable pattern that is shown through the years. God loves faith. He is there for the righteous. The rebellious He will not tolerate. Over and over we see that and we develop an idea of what God is like. That helps us as we journey with Him.

God is so good!

Roger Shouse

