

# The Vincennes Voice

“...The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight...” (Matt. 3:3)

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## **GREAT LESSONS ABOUT THE LORD IN PSALM 139**

Larry R. Ping II

Psalm 139 and its 24 verses contain several valuable lessons about God. This article will bring attention to a few.

**1) THE LORD KNOWS ALL.** What, you may ask? Everything! The Psalmist said, “*Thou knowest my downsitting and mine uprising, thou understandest my thought afar off*” (Psa. 139:2). Additionally he writes, “*For there is not a word in my tongue, but, lo, O LORD, thou knowest it altogether*” (Psa. 139:4). Nothing we do or say is hidden from the Almighty. The Hebrew writer reinforces this by authoring, “*Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do*” (Heb. 4:13).

**2) THE LORD IS EVERYWHERE.** God not only knows what we do and say at all times, He is also everywhere at all times. David queries, “*Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence*”

(Psa. 139:7)? The answer? “*If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou art there. If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea; Even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me. If I say, Surely the darkness shall cover me; even the night shall be light about me. Yea, the darkness hideth not from thee; but the night shineth as the day: the darkness and the light are both alike to thee*” (Psa. 139:8-12).

**3) THE LORD MAKES GOOD THINGS.** We are often bombarded by the theories of evolution and such. We are told our bodies evolved from an original one-celled amoeba. Not true! It is written, “*I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvellous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well*” (Psa. 139:14). We have not evolved from anything. We have been made, and in fantastic fashion. God does not make mistakes,

and he certainly did not with you or me!

**4) THE LORD SEEKS TO HELP US.** As this wonderful Psalm wraps up, David iterates, “*Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: And see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting*” (Psa. 139:23-24). David had an ultimate trust in God. It was manifested in his readiness to have God search him, know him, and try him. In so doing, David would be led into the everlasting way. Some believe God as One who takes pleasure in the death of wicked people. But the prophet quoted God in saying, “*I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live*” (Eze. 33:11). Paul declared, “*For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth*” (I Tim. 2:3-4). The Lord wants you to succeed! He wants you to be saved. Amen!

# SIX BIBLE HOUSES

John Isaac Edwards (Terre Haute, IN)

The word “house” appears more than 2,000 times throughout the Bible. It is used different ways, depending on the context. I am calling to attention six (6) houses:

**1) THE FAMILY.** The word “house” is often used of the family relationship. God told Noah, “*Come thou and all thy house into the ark*” (Gen. 7:1). “*By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house...*” (Heb. 11:7). Cornelius was said to have “... *feared God with all his house...*” (Acts 10:2). Three things about the family-house: First, it is God-instituted (Gen. 2:18-24). Second, it is man-headed and woman-subjected (Gen. 3:16; Eph. 5:22-33). Third, it is the place for child-rearing (Gen. 1:28; Eph. 6:4).

**2) A DWELLING PLACE.** “*And Jacob journeyed to Succoth, and built him an house, and made booths for his cattle...*” (Gen. 33:17). The dwelling-house is a place for practicing hospitality. This was demonstrated by Lot in Genesis 19:2-11 and by Rebekah and Laban in Genesis 24:23-32. The dwelling-house is also where spiritual teaching should take place (Dt. 6:7-9; 11:19-21; 5:42; 20:20). Eating and

drinking takes place in the dwelling-house (Acts 2:46; 1 Cor. 11:22, 34). The book of Haggai finds the Lord’s people putting too much emphasis on this house, and not enough attention being given to the Lord’s house (Hag. 1:2-9).

**3) THE OLD TESTAMENT TEMPLE.** It came into David’s mind to build a house for God (2 Sam. 7:2,7). Yet, God would not allow such as David had been a man of war and shed much blood. The temple-house would be built by David’s son, Solomon (1 Ki. 4-8). It was built according to the divine pattern (2 Sam. 24). This house was the place where Jews assembled for worship (Dt. 16).

**4) THE PHYSICAL BODY.** Did you know your body is referred to as a house? It is! “*For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens*” (2 Cor. 5:1). In describing the aging process, the Preacher spoke of “...*the day when the keepers of the house shall tremble...*” (Eccl. 12:3). This body houses the spirit. “*For as the body without the spirit is dead...*” (Jas. 2:26). “...*the Lord...formeth the spirit of man within him*” (Zech. 12:1). We need to take care of the body-house and

glorify God in it (1 Cor. 6:18-20).

**5) THE NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH.** Paul wrote Timothy, “*But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God...*” (1 Tim. 3:15). This house is “spiritual” in nature (1 Pet. 2:5). The church-house is God-planned (Eph. 3:10-11) and Christ-built (Mt. 16:18).

**6) THE MEETINGHOUSE.** This is the place where the church meets. Authority for the meetinghouse is included in the command to assemble (Heb. 10:25). The command to assemble necessitates a place. The use of the meetinghouse is limited by the Scriptures. It is restricted to spiritual purposes for which the Lord has called His people together. Such includes worshipping God (Acts 2:42; Eph. 5:19) and teaching the word of God (Eph. 4:12; 1 Tim. 3:15). We invite you to become a member of God’s house, and assemble with us in this house. You are welcome here!

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## MEETING TIMES (EST)

### SUNDAY

Bible Study – 10:00 am

Worship – 11:00 am & 3:00 pm

### WEDNESDAY

Bible Study – 7:00 pm