

IMPACT

I **M**ust **P**ersonally **A**cknowledge **C**hrist **T**oday
Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own under-
standing; *in all your ways acknowledge Him* and He shall direct your path.
Proverbs 3:5-6

Passage: John 1:14 “And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.” Matthew 10:29-31 “Are not two sparrows sold for a copper coin? And not one of them falls to the ground apart from your Father's will. But *the very hairs of your head are all numbered*. Do not fear therefore; *you are of more value than many sparrows*.”

Quote: “This is the fundamental thing, the most serious thing of all, that we are always in the presence of God.” D.M. Lloyd-Jones

To think that God, Whose presence fills the unfathomable expanse of the universe, numbers the very hairs of every head is a truth that should give Christians cause for wonder and praise! While transcendence is the attribute of God in which He is described as distinct from all creation, immanence is the attribute of God that describes His involvement in every aspect of His creation. Speaking of God's immanence, Job asked, “In whose hand is the life of every living thing, And the breath of all mankind?”¹ He then calls attention to the Almighty as the answer to his question. Likewise, Paul told the philosophers on Mars Hill that God gives “to all life, breath, and all things,” and that “in Him we live and move and have our being.”² He reminded the believers in Rome that “of Him and through Him and to Him are all things, to whom be glory forever.”²

Few passages describe the immanence of God in the lives of individuals like Psalm 139. David wrote, “O LORD, You have searched me and known me. You know *my sitting down* and *my rising up*; You understand *my thought* afar off. You comprehend *my path* and *my lying down*, And are acquainted with all *my ways*. For there is not a word on *my tongue*, But behold, O LORD, You know it altogether. You have hedged me behind and before, And laid Your hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; It is high, I cannot attain it. Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? If I

ascend into heaven, You are there; If I make my bed in hell, behold, You are there. If I take the wings of the morning, And dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, Even there Your hand shall *lead me*, And Your right hand shall *hold me*. If I say, ‘Surely the darkness shall fall on me,’ Even the night shall be light about me; Indeed, the darkness shall not hide from You, But the night shines as the day; The darkness and the light are both alike to You. For You formed *my inward parts*; You covered me in my mother's womb. I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Marvelous are Your works, And that my soul knows very well. *My frame* was not hidden from You, When I was made in secret, And skillfully wrought in the lowest parts of the earth. Your eyes saw *my substance*, being yet unformed. And in Your book they all were written, *The days fashioned for me, When as yet there were none of them*.”

Often single English words cannot convey the full impact of the Hebrew or Greek words used in Scripture. Hebrews 13:5-6 speaks of our contentment in the context of God's promise to always be with His own. The verses contain five negatives to magnify God's promise to never leave us as we rest in His protection, provision and providence for our lives. The Amplified Bible shows this emphasis. “...He Himself has said, ‘I will not in any way fail you nor give you up nor leave you without support. I will not, I will not, I will not in any degree leave you helpless, nor forsake nor let you down, [relax my hold on you].—Assuredly not! So we take comfort and are encouraged and confidently and boldly say, ‘The Lord is my Helper, I will not be seized with alarm—I will not fear or dread or be terrified....’ It is as though, for our benefit, the Almighty is saying, ‘I promise never, never, never, never, never to leave you!’”

Set against the backdrop of His transcendence, the immanence of “the High and Lofty One Who inhabits eternity” is a marvelous mystery and an enduring comfort to those who know Him as “the Father of mercy and God of all comfort.”⁴

God is Immanent!

¹ Job 12:10 ² Acts 17:25, 28 ³ Luke 12:22-31; Matt.6:25-28 ⁴ II Cor.1:3