

This Sunday is Sanctity of Human Life Sunday.

A Promise of Newness: Ezekiel 36:24-27 I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your impurities and from all your idolatrous worship.

I will give you a new (k) heart and put a new (k) spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws. 600 years before Jesus
The Hebrew for "new" was translated "kainos" in Greek. New quality

Read Psalm 139 A Psalm of David. 1,000 years before Jesus
Verses 1-6 O LORD, you have searched me and you know me. (v 24)
Such knowledge is too amazing, wonderful, incomprehensible – high – I cannot reach it.

Verses 7-12 Where can I go... From Your Spirit – Your Presence
Same as Psalm 51 Do not drive me from Your Presence or take Your Holy Spirit from me. The Holy Spirit is the Presence of God.

Psalm Brings Together The Knowledge and The Presence of God

Verses 13-18 For You Created... (Not "Bara" create in the sense of Genesis 1:1, but "qanah" to "make, form or bring forth" (Eve Gen 4:1)
In the deepest, most secret, most amazing place – our conception.

Verses 13 You made...my "kidneys", the deepest organ in the body and fig. "the term refers to the innermost aspects of personality."

Different translations say – even "my deepest parts"; "my most delicate parts"; "my innermost being"; "my heart and my mind"

14- Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex! Your workmanship is marvelous-- how well I know it.

15 – God's knowledge and presence are expressed in His intimate provision for our development. Earth and Womb are related here. Compare Job 1:21 "naked I came from my mother's womb and naked I shall return there (to the earth).

16a – Your eyes saw me when I was unformed.

"Your eyes saw my 'golem'"- Hebrew - "my embryo"
*Theological Wordbook of the Old Testament

16b – All the days ordained* for me were written in your book before one of them came to be. *Literally – "formed or fashioned"

This would refer to God's foreknowledge or complete knowledge. Not fatalism or determinism. God knows all our days, but He does not determine them ahead of time.

Or this verse could refer to our development as the Jewish

translation says, "Your eyes saw my unformed limbs. They were all recorded in Your book; in due time they were formed, to the very last one of them." (similar to the King James version)

**18 – "When I awake, I am still with you." (cf. Psalm 73:29)
Much meditation on the person and works of God took place as one lay in bed preparing to sleep or while waking up. (No cell phones)**

19 – If only You would kill the wicked

Not a cry for vengeance, but...complete, total, undiluted, allegiance and passion for God in contrast with the "wicked" – those who don't care about God.

My total love for God requires I disavow and distance myself from walking in agreement with those who do not share that love.

True Tolerance: Respectful acknowledgment of differences of opinion and practices without accepting, affirming or sharing them. God has indicated that His final judgment is delayed to bring salvation to the world. Final judgment would mean bringing this age to an end with the loss of those who did not trust in Him. 2 Peter 3:9

Verse 24 – David's Final Request: "1.Search me, O God, and know my heart; 2.test me and know my anxious thoughts... 3.see if there is any "hurtful or painful way, offensive habit, or idolatrous lifestyle" in me and 4.lead me in the Way that is Everlasting!" –

Eternal Life! Knowing Christ's Love enables us to make this request without fear of shame.

"There is no fear in love for complete and perfect love drives out fear!" 1 John 4:18

- 1. An offer – of openness: God looks for us to seek Him Jer 29:13**
- 2. An Invitation – To Inspect anew, even though God already knows Though David's love for God is ardent, he is not perfect and asks God to 'search' him, not for God's sake, but for David's**
- 3. An Expression of Humility/Repentance – if something hurtful is found; hurtful, offensive, idolatrous ways lead to death.**
- 4. A Commitment – to Follow; God leads, but does not force. We must walk with Him, just as...**

Enoch walked with God and was saved from death.

Noah walked with God and was saved from judgment.

Abraham was called to walk with God to bless the world.

The Believer – the one who trusts in Jesus Christ – does not have the right to choose what he or she does to the body; for the body was made for Jesus, belongs to Jesus, and we are to honor God with it, because, through the presence of the Holy Spirit, it has become the temple of the Living God. Psalm 127:3 "Children are a "heritage" of the LORD; and should always be thought of that way!