

God's Thoughts Toward You

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For **I know the thoughts that I think toward you**, saith the LORD,
thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.

Jeremiah 29:11

How precious also are thy thoughts unto me, O God! how great is the sum of them!

If I should count them, they are more in number than the sand: when I awake, I am still with thee.

Psalms 139:17-18

Many, O LORD my God, are thy wonderful works which thou hast done, **and thy thoughts which are to us-ward:**

they cannot be reckoned up in order unto thee: if I would declare and speak of them, they are more than can be numbered.... But I am poor and needy; **yet the Lord thinketh upon me:** thou art my help and my deliverer; make no tarrying, O my God.

Psalms 40:5

Suggested Bible Reading:

1. Psalm 139 ... *an incredibly exquisite description of God's care for David in all dimensions of life and time.*
2. Jeremiah 29 ... *two letters: Jeremiah's has comfort including God's thoughts, Shemaiah's earns his damnation.*
3. Isaiah 49 ... *two blessings: Jesus' great work with Gentiles and God's love and thoughts better than a mother's.*
4. II Samuel 7 ... *a personal and intimate exchange between God and David about his desire to build God a house.*
5. Isaiah 46 ... *a short and simple comparison of pagan idols to Jehovah and His counsel, pleasure, and purpose.*

Introduction & Explanation:

1. **Thought** = The result of mental action or effort; that which is in the mind; an idea that is formed, recalled, or arranged by intelligent and rational exercise of the intellect; a reflection, a consideration.
2. God has affection, considerations, concern, desires, feelings, ideas, plans, and reflections about you.
3. Though they were in His eternal counsel and form His secret will, they were intentional and personal.
4. God is omniscient – knowing all your thoughts, but not here (Ps 139:2; 94:11; Matt 9:4; Jn 2:23-25).
5. God is always thinking – His intellect is eternal, without origin, loss, or regaining thoughts (Ps 33:11).
6. God is eternally wise – He has had infinite wisdom always without gaining knowledge (Pr 8:22-26).

7. What we have before us are God's continuous, loving, precious, and purposeful thoughts toward us.
8. God is not a gum machine, for it is after chastening, limited by context, and for a church (Jer 29:11).
9. Our study of the attributes of God, especially His relational attributes, gives a great foundation ... **Knowing God**.
10. God's divisibility means He thinks of you and is at your beck and call ... and all elect simultaneously.
11. Each sermon should have a Reaction/Response ... conviction and commitment to change and apply it.
12. If God thinks about us as we shall see in His word, then we should think of Him and act back in zeal.
13. Walking with God assumes this exchange of thoughts and does everything as unto Him and with Him.
14. God gave us eternal life that we may know Him and His Son intimately (John 17:1-3; I John 5:18-20).
15. Many stress our relationship with God as knowing Him, but He rather knows us (Gal 4:9; II Tim 2:19).
16. We want to know this topic to know God better and how He connects with us for faith and faithfulness.
17. We want to fully measure His presence, His tender kindness, His fellowship, and His affection for us.
18. We must not assume chance or Fate to any degree in what He has done, is doing, and will do for us.
19. We must not think ourselves alone, without friend or hope, without help or expectation, by forgetting.
20. We want to know our God and do exploits, hold fast our profession, and most of all love Him more.
21. Do not think yourself alone in any situation or thought, for He knowest it altogether (Psalm 139:1-18).
22. The Bible does not have to use the word, "thoughts," to know His speech and action are by thoughts.
23. He does not speak or act in time that His thoughts did not choose from the beginning (Acts 15:18).
24. David and Paul were energized more than maybe any other men ... and they knew God's closeness.
25. Similar to a vision of God e.g. Jacob and Isaiah, it can and should provoke greater love and service.
26. For more information and instruction about seeking a vision from God or to hear His thoughts ... **A Vision of God – 2019**.

His Thoughts Desired

- A. These miscellaneous angles of human experience and observation are to exalt thoughts.
- B. It is common among friends to write, *Thinking about you*, for it states their love for you.
- C. Love is not just feeling, but mental energy to remember, appreciate, invest in a person.
- D. A simple text or even a simple card saying, *Thinking of you*, can reverse a terrible day.
- E. A person may tell the love of his/her life, *I cannot stop thinking about you day or night*.
- F. A person may tell a friend about a dear one, *I hope he is thinking about me right now*.
- G. We feel valued when someone we respect has taken the time to think of our potential.
- H. People may forget what you said, but they seldom forget that you thought about them.
 - I. If our favorites or even the most powerful on earth think about us, it does us little good.
 - J. But if GOD Jehovah thinks about us for good, there is nothing at all to compare to that.
- K. Joy and value of a relationship is the important or desired one thinking about the other.
- L. It is a true proverb, *Out of sight, out of mind*, and we cannot see our invisible Jehovah.

- M. But our invisible God is thinking about us all the time for our good in time and eternity.
- N. If love is measured by how much a person thinks about another. *Jehovah truly loves us!*
- O. If you are thrilled when a friend thinks of you, what about the Creator thinking of you!
- P. Our thoughts about others are varying and weak, but His are eternal, constant, forever.
- Q. God does not just think about us; He thinks for us – planning peace, pleasure, prosperity.
- R. If a note or a text from a dear friend moves us, what about the Bible of God's thoughts!
- S. Without being irreverent, it is not unscriptural to say, God thinks about me all the time.

His Thoughts Proved

- A. He has thoughts, as we understand such heart and mind activity (Psalm 33:11; 139:17-18; 40:5,17; 92:5; Jeremiah 23:20; 29:11; 30:24; 31:28; Zechariah 1:6; 8:14-15).
- B. His counsel is His thoughts; He learned from no others (Ps 33:11; Is 28:29; 40:13-14; Jer 23:18; 32:19; Micah 4:12; Acts 2:23; 4:28; Romans 11:33-36; Eph 1:11; Heb 6:17).
- C. His purpose is His thoughts and by them (Eph 1:9; Is 14:24-27; 46:9-11; Rom 8:28-29).
- D. His pleasure is His thoughts, what He liked (Is 46:10; Job 23:13-14; Ps 135:6; Eph 1:9).
- E. His mind is the source of His thoughts (Job 23:13-14; 33:29-30; Rom 11:34; I Cor 2:16).
- F. His will is His thoughts, for they result from it (Dan 4:35; Eph 1:5,9,11; Rom 9:15-18).
- G. His wisdom is His wise thoughts (Pr 8:22-30; Rom 11:33-34; I Cor 1:21; Eph 3:9-11).
- H. His promises are His thoughts, revealing His plans (Tit 1:2; Heb 6:17; II Cor 1:17-20).
- I. His word reveals His thoughts (Deut 29:29; Amos 3:7; Rom 16:25-27; I Cor 2:6-16).

His Thoughts Illustrated

- A. Enoch was the seventh, God liked him, taught him, took him (Heb 11:5; Jude 1:14-15).
- B. Noah found grace in His thoughts: saving, warning, teaching him (Gen 6:8-9; 9:1-17).
- C. Abraham was called the friend of God and had intimate encounters (Genesis 18:1-33).
- D. Hagar was a rejected, pregnant concubine, but God had thoughts for her (Gen 16:6-16).
- E. Jacob saw a ladder, prevailed with God, and got a new name (Gen 28:10-22; 32:24-32).
- F. Joseph, hated and far away, had God with him (Gen 39:1-3,21-23; 41:16-45; Josh 14:4).
- G. Moses had a special friendship with God, like face to face (Exodus 33:11-23; 34:4-8).
- H. Hannah and her trials were known by God and His thoughts toward her (I Sam 2:1-10).
- I. David knew God's thoughts toward him were very special (II Sam 7:18-22; Ps 89:1-4).
- J. Isaiah was convicted for ministry by seeing and hearing God's thoughts (Isaiah 6:1-13).
- K. Jeremiah was known in God's thoughts before birth, like Paul (Jer 1:4-10; Ga 1:15-17).
- L. Mary found high favor with God and great blessing to birth His Son (Luke 1:26-38).
- M. Zacchaeus, seeking only to see Jesus, is discovered and loved by Him (Luke 19:1-10).
- N. A poor widow cast in but two mites and Jesus honored her to the twelve (Luke 21:1-4).

- O. Peter got tender care and kind rebuke, appealing to thoughts (Mark 16:7; Jn 21:15-19).
- P. Paul was to stay in Corinth in spite of danger for God's thoughts of His (Acts 18:9-11).
- Q. John, though banished to the isle of Patmos, was in God's thoughts (Rev 1:1-2,9-10).
- R. For much more detail about seeking a vision from God or to hear His thoughts ... [A Vision of God – 2019](#).

What About Your Thoughts?

- A. You cannot stop thinking, unless asleep. Try to stop. You are thinking about thinking.
- B. The wicked never seek God or think about Him (Ps 10:4; 14:1-3; Exodus 5:2; Eph 2:12).
- C. The righteous seek His face and think about Him always
(Psalm 24:6; 27:8; 63:1-6; 73:21-28; 104:34; 105:4; 119:58; Proverbs 30:9; Isaiah 55:6-7; Hosea 5:15; Phil 4:4).
- D. If you do everything as unto Him, your thoughts are loving, loyal, and personal (Rom 14:6-8; Eph 5:8-10,22; Col 3:17,20,22-24; Matthew 5:20; I Cor 7:21-22; I Pet 2:13-16).
- E. For much more about doing everything unto the Lord, a slide sermon will help ... [As Unto the LORD](#).
- F. Walking with God makes this a two-way street of fellowship by exchanging thoughts.
- G. Follow Nehemiah asking God to think of him and his works (Neh 5:19; 13:14,22,31).
- H. Commit to live perfectly like David and include his request for God (Ps 101:2) ... [Psalm 101](#).
 - I. God wants your thoughts of Him and righteousness (Ps 119:59; Prov 24:9; Phil 4:8).
 - J. He saved you and thought out your prosperity – think above (Col 3:1-4; Phil 3:17-21).
- K. The exchange of God with David is most precious (II Samuel 7:1-29; I Chron 17:1-27).

His Thoughts Are Innumerable

- A. Inspired David said God's thoughts were a great sum and like the sand (Ps 139:17-18).
- B. His many thoughts toward you cannot be counted in order or even numbered (Ps 40:5).
- C. He has your life covered in all ways and from all angles in many thoughts about you.
- D. Job understood that God had many things within Himself appointed to him (Job 23:14).
- E. God's perfections and His deliverances have no number (Job 5:8-11; 9:10; Ps 71:15).

His Thoughts Are Precious

- A. Under this heading we consider the value of His thoughts rather than their intentions.
- B. David under inspiration emphatically said God's thoughts were precious (Ps 139:17).
- C. His thoughts about forgiving you are infinitely better than yours to forgive (Is 55:8-9).
- D. His thoughts to hide or to reveal truth are an incredible gift (Matthew 11:25-26; 13:17).
- E. It pleased the LORD, that is His desires and thoughts, to bruise His Son (Isaiah 53:10).
- F. Jesus saw His seed, and He intercedes for them, with loving thoughts (Isaiah 53:10-12).

His Thoughts Are Passionate

- A. Under this heading we consider the intensity of His thoughts rather than their intentions.
- B. He remembered Ephraim, and it troubled His bowels. Precious thoughts (Jer 31:18-20)!
- C. His loving thoughts and remembrance of His children exceeds a mother's (Is 49:13-17).
- D. His love is everlasting; it truly works and draws; it is eternal (Jer 31:3; Rom 8:35-39).
- E. God rejoices over you with joy, rests in His love, joys over you with singing (Zep 3:17).
- F. David saw the interaction as God commanding lovingkindness toward Him (Ps 42:8).

His Thoughts Are Wise

- A. You have never encountered by any means and never will the sagacity of His thoughts.
- B. Our glorious God's plan of salvation are His wise and prudent thoughts to us (Eph 1:8).
- C. God chose (intent) to impress angels by His wisdom to save the church (Eph 3:9-11).
- D. His infinite wisdom, as much as we can grasp, is revealed in scripture (II Tim 3:16-17).
- E. We love the divine library, for in it by a variety of genre are His thoughts on all topics.
- F. Even if a pagan were to live by the Bible, his life would pass all other thoughts of any.

His Thoughts Are Good

- A. God heard the crying and groaning of Israel in Egypt, and He had respect (Ex 2:23-25).
- B. God's thoughts to the Jews were of peace, not evil, to fulfill good promises (Jer 29:11).
- C. The context is His promise to bring those in Babylon back home (Jer 29:4-10,12-14).
- D. Here is encouragement to pray, since He has done more for us than them (Jer 29:12-13).
- E. Our Jehovah's thoughts are incredible (Psalm 31:19-21; 36:5-10; Isaiah 35:1-10; etc.).
- F. The apostolic gospel reveals God's thoughts beyond experience (I Cor 2:9-12; Is 64:4).
- G. He told Jeremiah to call unto Him and He would show him such things (Jeremiah 33:3).
- H. You believe the gospel and others do not due to His good thoughts (Matthew 11:25-26).
- I. In Christ by God's eternal purpose, we know His thoughts are for good (Romans 8:28).
- J. Our God and Father has an expected end for us – glorification and heaven with Him.

His Thoughts Are Personal

- A. David wrote an exquisite account, deserving much study, of His thoughts (Ps 139:1-18).
- B. God's intimate relationship toward us is incredibly personal and detailed (Ps 139:1-6).
- C. No matter where we might be, He is right there beside us to guide us (Psalm 139:7-12).
- D. From our very beginning by conception, His thoughts decreed our lives (Ps 139:13-16).
- E. Three views of His thoughts are precious, innumerable, and comforting (Ps 139:17-18).
- F. God liked David, and David knew it, which is one of the best thoughts ever (I Chr 28:4).
- G. Then the thoughtful exchange between them of two houses is fabulous (II Sam 7:1-29).

- H. God knows you so well His thoughts include your number of hairs (Matthew 10:29-31).
- I. Jesus loved three siblings, groaned twice, and wept at his funeral (John 11:5,33,35,38).
- J. God loves the righteous, and He shares thoughts of good (Ec 5:20; Rom 5:5; 8:14-17).

His Thoughts Are Eternal

- A. His counsel and thoughts are from eternity past (Acts 15:18; Eph 3:11; II Thess 2:13).
- B. They are not new; He does not gain insight; He does not change (Acts 15:18; Ps 33:11).
- C. His thoughts stand through time (Is 46:9-11; Mal 3:6; Heb 13:8; Jas 1:17; Rev 22:13).
- D. His secret thoughts dictate all (Deut 29:29; Lamentations 3:37; Acts 4:27-28; Eph 1:11).
- E. How long has God known you? Far longer than you have known Him (Jeremiah 31:3).
- F. How long has God known you? It is more important than you knowing Him (Gal 4:9).
- G. So He foretold Cyrus and Josiah by name long before birth (Is 44:28; 45:1; I Kgs 13:2).
- H. Yet, never let eternal timing of His thoughts alter how intentional and personal they are.

His Thoughts Are Constant

- A. Looking at last point, they are eternal; looking to the next point, they are immutable.
- B. His thoughts never end – they are constant – He is always thinking about us for good.
- C. His vineyard – He keeps us, waters us every moment, protects night and day (Is 27:3).
- D. Fury is not in me. How so? In the sense of His thoughts toward His church (Isaiah 27:4).
- E. God's thoughts for us never end – forgotten, forget, graven, continually (Is 49:13-17).
- F. If we are graven on His hands, He needs no reminder to think of us – we are right there.
- G. God told Israel how He was not a foolish idol – He would never forget them (Is 44:21).
- H. God must chasten at times; it is not that He forgets us, but He remembers (Jer 31:20).
- I. What does He remember? Our frame. What else? His mercy toward us (Ps 103:13-18).

His Thoughts Are Immutable

- A. His thoughts do not change to stand forever (Ps 33:11; Prov 19:21; 21:30; Isaiah 14:24).
- B. His thoughts are eternal and constant, so they never change; He does not originate thoughts, accumulate thoughts, reconcile thoughts, lose thoughts, confuse thoughts, etc.
- C. He cannot lie, which is intentional deception by misrepresentation (Titus 1:2; Heb 6:18).
- D. He will not repent, which is to change His mind (Numbers 23:19-20; I Samuel 15:29).
- E. Unlike everyone else you have or will know, He does not change, and His word stands.
- F. He thought to comfort you of this, ***willing more abundantly***, by an oath (Heb 6:17-20).

His Thoughts Are Sovereign

- A. Rather than repeat His universal rule over all, how do our lives mesh with His thoughts?
- B. Our limited minds tend to rush to fatalism when considering His sovereign dominion.

- C. We are responsible for choosing sin and will be punished, and good conduct for rewards.
- D. He knew we would question its legitimacy, so He asked and answered (Rom 9:18-20).
- E. He sees the end from the beginning and includes all we will do by this or that prompting.
- F. His thoughts toward us involving His prompting leave us responsible for our response.
- G. These thoughts include what He knows we will do within our responsibility parameters.
- H. But He also knows what He will do to help us by thoughts and circumstances for us.
 - I. His thoughts toward us are perfect and may be totally trusted (Jer 10:24; Is 28:23-28).
- J. For example, God hardened Pharaoh's heart and judged him for it, by eternal thoughts.
- K. For example, God's thoughts kept Abimelech from adultery for three souls (Gen 20:6).
- L. For example, God's thoughts for Jacob's family included sibling sins (Genesis 50:20).
- M. Prayer does change things, but only from our perspective (Isaiah 38:1-5; Jonah 3:1-10).
- N. Whether Jabez, Hezekiah, or Nineveh, God saw the prayers in His thoughts for them.
- O. God already has His thoughts to answer, for He planned and knows the needs (Mat 6:8).
- P. David and Jesus prayed for things God had already purposed (II Sam 7:27-29; John 17).
- Q. When we ask in prayer according to His will (thoughts), we receive (I Jn 5:14; Jas 4:3).
- R. God determines and governs means and end, including prayer (Deut 29:29; Heb 11:6).
- S. Our prayers are our thoughts to Him, but He planned and knew the need and the prayers.
- T. We pray God to not lead us into temptation; our concerned thoughts garner His mercy.
- U. God prompts/restrains your heart and directs the details (Pr 16:9; Jas 4:13-15; Ruth 2:3).
- V. For a focused study on how your prayers mesh with God's secret, sovereign will ... **Prayer and the Will of God.**
- W. For an exhaustive study of God's dominion and our responsibility toward Him ... **Dominion of God.**

His Thoughts Discovered

- A. His secret thoughts are known in time, though from eternity, to cover every fact of life.
- B. Every event, trait, opportunity, or not, in time, are His thoughts about you (Deut 29:29).
- C. This is God's providence; His thoughts governing the world, including trials and errors.
- D. Therefore, consider and praise Him for every merciful choice evident in your existence.
- E. Therefore, consider and thank Him for every prudent choice to keep you from iniquity.
- F. Therefore, consider and honor Him for any sin allowed, lesson learned, and forgiveness.
- G. Therefore, consider and thank Him for any conviction and commitment toward Him.
- H. Therefore, consider and thank Him for beautiful feet whether in person, book, or other.
 - I. His secret and revealed thoughts are also known by scripture, which you should love.
 - J. For example, when you read Psalm 91, it is conditioned three times on things you do.
 - K. For example, you know the book of Proverbs by providence, and it is for your success.
 - L. For example, He has detailed covenant promises and salvation to you (Heb 6:17-20).

- M. For example, He foretold the decay of the RCC, the end of the world, a new one, etc.
- N. For example, you know your future at and after death, at judgment and after judgment.
- O. His personal thoughts are known by His Spirit in you (Romans 5:5; 8:14-17; 15:13).
- P. When you first heard the gospel and loved it, the change was His thoughts (Acts 16:14).
- Q. And this is true, whether one individual at one time or all the Gentiles (Acts 15:14-18).
- R. When you are prompted inside with a surprising thought of Him or truth, He sent it.
- S. The LORD stirs men up with thoughts in them (Ezra 1:1,5; 7:27; Hag 1:14; II Cor 8:16).
- T. He also turns men over, so live humbly (II Sam 24:1; II Chr 32:31; Luke 22:31-32).

His Thoughts Identified

- A. From history, scripture, and Spirit's assistance inside us, we learn His thoughts for us.
- B. His thoughts to rescue and recover exiles from Babylon are gloriously kind (Jer 29:11).
- C. But His thoughts of the gospel kingdom for the elect remnant are greater (Jer 3:16-19).
- D. Mention of His countless thoughts is followed by incarnation (Ps 40:6-10; Heb 10:5-9).
- E. His mind is filled with thoughts of your happiness in heaven (Matt 25:34; John 14:1-3).
- F. Eternal life is by God's thoughts of your name (Eph 1:3-6; II Tim 1:9; Rev 13:8; 17:8).
- G. Eternal life is by His thoughts to assign His Son to die for you (I Peter 1:20; Gen 3:15).
- H. Eternal life includes intercession (praying for you) to save to the uttermost (Heb 7:25).
- I. Eternal life includes His thoughts of your final place of pleasure (Eph 1:11; Matt 25:34).
- J. Salvation included Gentiles He knew all along (Is 49:1-6; Acts 15:12-18; II Thess 2:13).
- K. Salvation includes intimate and touching fellowship (John 14:21-23; Hebrews 4:15-16).
- L. Salvation includes chastening, which is His affectionate thoughts of you (Heb 12:5-13).
- M. He gave insider information to defeat Satan (James 4:7; Eph 4:27; 6:10-18; II Cor 2:11).
- N. He has promised to never give you more than you can handle with escape (I Cor 10:13).
- O. Every promise in the Bible you have ever claimed is from His thoughts toward you.

His Thoughts Applied

- A. Ponder your existence. You are not a chance event or mistake. He thought you (Ps 139), and even hard circumstances include precious thoughts of all kinds, ability and escape.
- B. His most personal, intimate thought in some ways is ... your existence ... to know you, by detailed creation and wisdom-abounding salvation by His Son (Gal 4:9; I John 4:19).
- C. How can you feel alone or lonely? He is thinking about you (and with you and in you); David understood even after sleep when he lost all thoughts, God was there (Ps 139:18).
- D. Elihu confronted Job about the afflicted missing God for songs in the night (Job 35:10).
- E. Why fret affliction or fear future? His good expected end for you will come (Jer 29:11).
- F. How can Bible reading be boring? Scripture reveals thoughts toward you, intended for your success from eternity with many factors, like the commentary for today (Pr 3:15).

- G. How can prayer be boring? He is thinking about you, and is already answering, or assisting in fervency and content, or encouraging you in it (Is 65:23-25; Rom 8:26-27).
- H. How can meditation be boring? He may remind you or reveal even new thoughts to you, as you humbly examine yourself and seek His face in quiet time for sweet fellowship.
- I. Conviction against sin or for good is by His thoughts helping you up (Luke 22:61-62).
- J. Cast all your care on Him, for He cares for you; He thinks about helping you (1 Pet 5:7).
- K. Cromwell in battle, *If in the busyness of this day I forget Thee, do not Thou forget me.*
- L. For much more about doing everything unto the Lord, a slide sermon will help ... **As Unto the LORD.**

Conclusion:

1. **Thought** = The result of mental action or effort; that which is in the mind; an idea that is formed, recalled, or arranged by intelligent and rational exercise of the intellect; a reflection, a consideration.
2. God is omniscient – knowing all your thoughts, but not here (Ps 139:2; 94:11; Matt 9:4; Jn 2:23-25).
3. God is always thinking – His intellect is eternal, without origin, loss, or regaining thoughts (Ps 33:11).
4. God is eternally wise – He has had infinite wisdom always without adding knowledge (Prov 8:22-24).
5. What we have before us are God's continuous, loving, precious, and purposeful thoughts toward us.
6. Our study of the attributes of God, especially His relational attributes, is a great foundation ... **Knowing God.**

For Further Study:

1. **Before the World Began** (operations of grace).
2. Love of God (like a mother, etc.) ... **The Love of God – (#1), The Love of God – (#2), The love of God (#3).**
3. Dominion of God (sovereign w/o fatalism) ... **Prayer and the Will of God, Dominion of God.**
4. **Knowing God** (relational attributes).
5. **Particular Redemption (of a peculiar people).**
6. God of Prayer (His thoughts helping us) ... **Confidence & Excitement in Prayer, Particular Redemption of a Peculiar People.**
7. Your Thoughts Can Destroy You ... **Your Thoughts Can Destroy You (3 Sermons).**