

RUSSELL SANDERS
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SEARCH ME O GOD

Psalm 139:23-24 says, ***“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.”***

This passage is the message of a favorite worship hymn (in private meditation) of mine. God knows the thoughts of our soul, our minds. He knows the intention of our heart, our spirit. He knows our motivations and what it is that we value. This scripture is a prayer that asks God to reveal our impure thoughts, motives, and actions so that we can confess them. Then we can walk in holiness into our eternal life as an unblemished bride of Christ.

In verse 24, the English word “wicked” is the Hebrew word ‘otseb which means “idol.” In other words, is there any thing pertaining to me that means more to me than you do, O Lord?” Is there anything or any activity upon which I place too high of a value?

Modern translations mistranslate that word in many ways, such as: grievous, offensive, done anything wrong, hurtful, evil, rebellious, offends you, and so forth. But the original ‘otseb means “idol” which indicates putting a higher value on anything else other than God himself (Jehovah, Yeshuah, Jesus).

We need to daily cleanse our thoughts, our actions, our words, and keep our motivations clean and pure before God.

Cleanse me, Oh God, and know my heart today. Try me, oh Savior, know my thoughts I pray.