THE PRESENCE OF GOD
(God's Omnipresence)

God is "not far from everyone of us: for in Him we live, and move, and have our being" (Acts 17:27, 28).

I. The DEFINITION of God's Omnipresence

God is everywhere present at all times in His whole person!

SEE: Psalm 139:7-12

God's omniscience (v. 1-6) and omnipresence are closely related.

God knows all because He made everything, sees everything, and is everywhere!

II. The EXPLANATION of God's Omnipresence

A. God's presence is _____

Psalm 139:7 -- "Thy Spirit . . . Thy presence."

God is spirit (Jn. 4:24); therefore, His presence is not material in nature.

Important Note: God is present in all of creation; but He is not a part of creation.

B. God's presence is _____

Psalm 139:8 - ". . . Thou art there. . ."

Though God's presence is spiritual, it is nonetheless actual (real) in essence.

God's omnipresence is not a mere _____. That is, we are not saying that God can be every place at one time, but that He is every place at one time.

God is not merely in a place in thought, but in reality.

C. God's presence is _____

Psalm 139:8, 10 - "Thou art there . . . Thy right hand shall hold me."

It is important to note that God in His totality (whole being) is everywhere present at the same time.

--God does not have to be extended ("stretched out" or expanded) to be everywhere.

--God does not have to be multiplied or divided to be everywhere.

God's omnipresence is not a part of God in every place, but is all of God in every place.

--God fills heaven and earth! (SEE: Jer. 23:23-24)

--God sits in Heaven and rests His feet on earth (Is. 66:1; cp. I Ki. 8:27; Ps. 11:4). "Heaven is my throne and the earth is my footstool."

D. God's presence is _____

Psalm 139:7-10 - He is in "heaven . . . hell (sheol) . . . the uttermost part of the sea."

1. God is present in _____ above (v. 8a)

2. God is present in ____ (sheol) beneath (sheol literally refers to a "deep pit")

*SEE Rev. 14:10 - ". . . he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb (Jesus Christ).

(Those who die without Christ will be forever set apart from the presence of God in terms of His power to save, but not in terms of His watchful

eye.)

3. God is present in _____ ("sea") below

E. Since God is universal:

1. His presence is _____ Ps. 139:7-12)

SEE: Jeremiah 23:23, 24.

The most foolish attempt in the world is to run or hide from God! (EX: Adam, Achan, Jonah - Jonah tried to flee from the presence of the Lord, but he couldn't [Jonah 1:3]).

2. His presence is <u>not</u>_____

a. God is not confined to any _____

--such as an idol

--such as a building (I Ki. 8:27; II Chron. 2:5, 6; Acts 7:47-50).

b. God is not confined to any _____

(SEE: Jn. 4:20-24)

Deut. 4:39 - "Know therefore this day, and consider it in thine heart, that the LORD he is God in heaven above, and upon the earth beneath: there is none else."

(Cp. Josh. 2:11)

<u>EXCURSUS:</u>

Christ's use of His omnipresence was surrendered while He was on earth.

When Christ was incarnate on earth, He was limited in His omnipresence.

It is in this sense that the Father is said to be "greater" than the Son (Jn. 14:28).

III. The APPLICATION of God's Omnipresence

The truth about God's omnipresence should be applied to your life. In other words, we need to "practice the presence of God."

A. God's omnipresence has application to the unsaved (Acts 17:22-29 *v. 27-28) He is only a call away (Rom. 10:13).

B. God's omnipresence has special application to the saved

When you "practice the presence of God," the following blessings will be enjoyed:

1. Knowing God's presence with you brings ___ (Ps. 16:11).

2. Knowing God's presence with you brings _____ (Acts 18:10).

3. Knowing God's presence with you brings _____
   a. Confidence as you _____ (Mt. 18:19-20)
   b. Confidence as you _____ (Mt. 28:19-20)
   c. Confidence as you _____
      1) Christ fills all believers (Eph. 1:23)
      2) God works in all believers (I Cor.12:6) (Phil. 2:13)

4. Knowing God's presence with you brings an end to _____ (Heb. 13:5).

(You are never alone - Acts 17:27-28)

5. Knowing God's presence with you brings a ___ of God (Gen. 28:15-17; Josh. 2:11).