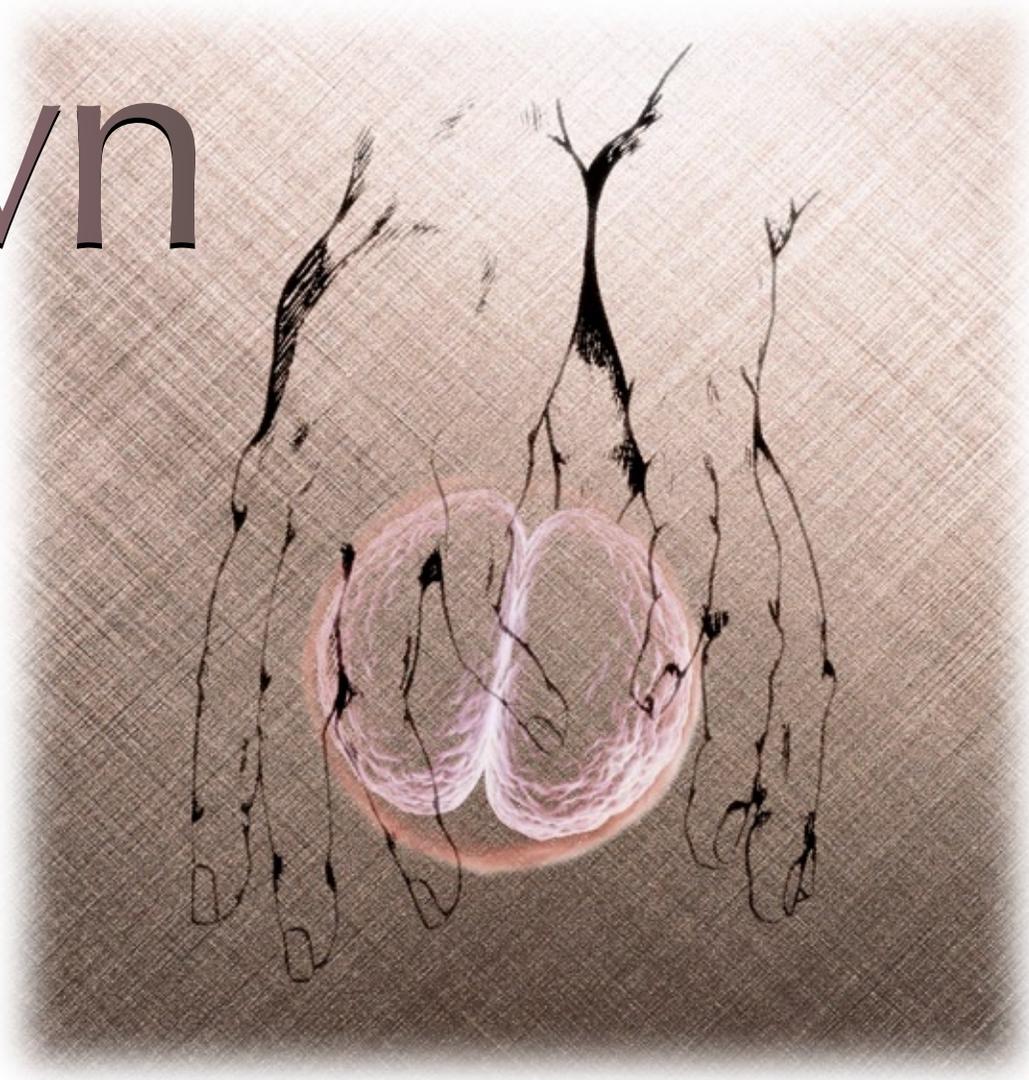


For You formed my inward parts;
You wove me in my mother's womb.

Psalms 139:13

Known



EVANGELICALS LIKE TO USE the reassuring term “personal Savior” for Jesus the Christ, the second member of the Godhead. It accurately affirms His very real presence in our lives, the fact that His is a *relationship* salvation, that He has intimate knowledge of not only the church, but every individual within it. But we should never forget that that level of intimacy is not unique to God the Son.

Certainly God the Spirit knows us, for He indwells each individual believer. He is not just our Counselor and Comforter, He is our umbilical to the Father, feeding the individual believer from the mind of God even as He translates our stumbling prayers into the fluid language of heaven. To accomplish this the Spirit must know us very well indeed.

That intimate knowledge extends, however, even to God the Father—God Almighty, the Ancient of Days, the great I AM. He knows us now; more than that, He knew us before we were. And He was instrumental in our forming, as King David expresses so eloquently:

For You formed my inward parts;
You wove me in my mother’s womb.
I will give thanks to You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made;
Wonderful are Your works,
And my soul knows it very well.
My frame was not hidden from You,
When I was made in secret,
And skillfully wrought in the depths of the earth;
Your eyes have seen my unformed substance;
And in Your book were all written
The days that were ordained *for me*,
When as yet there was not one of them.

Psalms 139:13-16

The writer of Psalm 119 puts it more succinctly:

Your hands made me and fashioned me...

Psalms 119:73a

Before there was a zygote that would nine months later be given our name, the Lord, Jehovah, knew us so well that He could record in His journal every day, every event, every joy and sorrow of our life not yet begun.

What tenderness! We rightly consider Jesus the Son as God in flesh—God incarnated so we could better grasp His love for us, as well as have a clearer image of His personality. But in that is the risk that we assign those traits to Jesus alone, when, in fact, they are traits He got from the Father.

Therefore Jesus answered and was saying to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, unless *it is something He sees the Father doing*; for whatever the Father does, these things the Son also does in like manner.”

John 5:19

The follower of Christ is not just saved, he is *loved*. That means that all three members of the God-head—Father, Son and Spirit—know us inside and out, and are working together for our good. Far more than that, however, they are at work in our lives for Their ultimate glory.

Their intimate, tender knowledge of us redounds to the fullness of praise that surrounds and exalts the very thrones of heaven.