

I have some very beloved friends and family who have been deeply concerned about our government's ever-increasing invasion of citizens' privacy. It is a real concern, and recent events in the last couple of months have done nothing to assuage these fears. The great effort to enact gun-control laws substantiates these fears, and our government may turn into a dictatorship before long.

Personally, I've never worried too much about whether or not **"BIG BROTHER"** is tapping my telephone lines, or tracking my travels, or worried about whether or not he might implant a microchip in my body for further information. My life is already *an open book*, and if I'm living as I should then I have nothing to fear. And if I'm doing something *illegal*, then I need to be monitored. Of course, my attitude about these things will change *drastically* if **"BIG BROTHER"** ever starts trying to enforce his idea of **"religion"** upon me -- accepting homosexuality, homosexual marriage, fornication, etc. -- upon penalty of fine or imprisonment. Then I would have to choose to obey God rather than man (Acts 5:29) and seek refuge.

A Bigger Observer

Perhaps my lack of concern about **"BIG BROTHER"** looking over my shoulder stems from my life-long awareness of the Eternal God knowing my every thought, motive and action! *"And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account"* (Heb. 4:13). Now, dear reader, there is an awesome thought! God knows "all things" pertaining to me and I will stand before Him in judgment for these, whether good or bad (2 Cor. 5:10)! That makes **"BIG BROTHER"** look mighty small and insignificant to me.

When Samuel was anointing David to be the next king, God reminded him not to look on the outer man, but on the inner man: *"...for man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart"* (1 Sam. 16:7).

Job knew that God saw *"my ways, and count(ed) all my steps"* (Job 31:4). He was a man of integrity, so rather than fear this "invasion of privacy," it gave Job great consolation!

"If I have walked with falsehood, or if my foot has hastened to deceit, let me be weighed on honest scales, that God may know my integrity. If my step has turned from the way, or my heart walked after my eyes, or if any spot adheres to my hands, then let me sow, and another eat; yes, let my harvest be rooted out." (Job 31:5-8).

If people would be as concerned about the All-Seeing God and their future accountability to Him, then things would be better for them and the world in which we live. And it would certainly put things in their proper perspective.

The psalmist David had this appreciation for God's knowledge of him:

"O LORD, You have searched me and known me. You know my sitting down and my rising up; You understand my thought afar off. You comprehend my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways. For there is not a word on my tongue, but behold, O LORD, You know it altogether." (Psalm 139:1-4).

This was a great *comfort* to obedient David; it came back to *correct* him when he found himself guilty of adultery, murder, and duplicity (2 Sam. 11-12)! Even a great king like David could not escape the wrath and judgment of God. And so it is with us. God knows us, sees us, and weighs us in the balance of justice. Only through Jesus Christ and His saving gospel can we find God's mercy, forgiveness and cleansing for our wrongs (1 Jn. 1:7-9).

Dear readers, you and I may think we can escape the prying eyes of "Big Brother," and so we may. But we cannot avoid the All-Seeing, All-Righteous God of all the Earth -- so order your lives in such a way as to be pleasing to Him. And that will take care of **"BIG BROTHER"** too!