

# QTC546. "You Are A Wonder" Psalm 139 series part 12. 21 November 2024

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"You Are A Wonder" Psalm 139 Series - Part 12 | Malcolm Cox | Quiet Time Coaching  
Episode 546

## Introduction

Today, we look at verses eleven and twelve of the Psalm.

"If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light around me become night," even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day, for darkness is as light to you." (Psalm 139:11-12)

What is David's imagining? The word 'cover' can be translated as 'bruise'. Bad things happen at night. Perhaps these are the Psalmists' fears. The night normally comes when darkness comes at the end of the day, but perhaps here he is fearing that darkness will come even when it is meant to be light, like an eclipse or a very dark cloud.

However, God turns things upside down. Darkness is not dark to him. He is not restricted or restrained from his abilities according to what is usually the case in creation. Our experience and understanding are not his. Our limitations are not his. When things look dark to me, they are not dark to God. The implication is that I never need to be 'in the dark'.

## Where is Jesus in this?

John 8.12

"When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

## How does this help us?

When we feel that "darkness shall cover" us—whether it's emotional turmoil, confusion, or spiritual struggle—these verses remind us Jesus walks with us bringing his light into our darkness. We may feel that our situation is bleak, but in prayer, we can invite God's light into those areas. What we experience as impenetrable or frightening darkness can be transformed in God's presence. In prayer, we don't need to hide or minimise our struggles; instead, we can

ask God to meet us in our hidden places, knowing He is already there, ready to comfort and guide us.

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## Question

What 'darkness' are you experiencing right now? Are there any areas of confusion, hopelessness, or despair?

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## Suggestions

1. Can you talk these over with your heavenly Father, asking him for the strength to trust that he sees clearly and cares for you?
  2. It might help to spend some time quietly contemplating the truth that Jesus is right there, the light of the world, with you in your darkness.
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## Conclusion

Next time, we will move on to verse thirteen.

I am planning a spiritual experience day based on Psalm 139 in the spring of 2025. If you'd be interested, please email me at [malcolm@malcolmcox.org](mailto:malcolm@malcolmcox.org).

Your brother, Malcolm

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Please add your comments on this week's topic. We learn best when we learn in community.

Do you have a question about teaching the Bible? Is it theological, technical, or practical? Please send me your questions or suggestions. Here's the email: [malcolm@malcolmcox.org](mailto:malcolm@malcolmcox.org).

If you'd like a copy of my free eBook on spiritual disciplines, "How God Grows His People", sign up at my website: <http://www.malcolmcox.org>.

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