QTC549. "You Are A Wonder" Psalm 139 series part 15. 12 December 2024

"You Are A Wonder" Psalm 139 Series - Part 15 | Malcolm Cox | Quiet Time Coaching Episode 549

Introduction

Today, we look at verses fifteen and sixteen of the Psalm.

Psalm 139.15-16

"My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth.

Your eyes beheld my unformed substance. In your book were written all the days that were formed for me, when none of them as yet existed."

David is reflecting on the fact that God knows everything about him, even the things he can't understand about himself. We know more these days about DNA, genetic material, and such, but the formation of the human body inside the womb is a glorious and mysterious event.

We are woven

Have you ever done some sewing, knitting or weaving? My mother taught me how to darn my socks. Came in very handy at university when I ran out of money! Let's talk about something a little more impressive.

The Apocalypse Tapestry is a wonder. It was created in the late 1300s and measured about 140 meters (459 feet) in length and 6 meters (19.7 feet) in height. It illustrates scenes from the Book of Revelation (the Apocalypse) from the Bible. It was commissioned by Louis I, Duke of Anjou, a prominent French nobleman. See this video for more information: https://www.chateau-angers.fr/decouvrir/la-tapisserie-de-l-apocalypse-l-essentiel-en-2-minutes



It's hard to imagine the complexity of the planning, the volume of fabric used, and the hours it took to create this amazing tapestry. It took five years to complete. However, you were woven more intricately, more lovingly and more purposefully than the Apocalypse tapestry. Not only that but its lifetime is limited even with the finest, most modern preservation techniques. You, however, have been born again to live forever.

Where is Jesus in this?

The Son of God allowed himself to be formed--woven--in Mary's womb (Luke 1:31-35). What incredible humility! He affirmed the value of our 'wovenness' in being woven just like you and me.

How does this help us?

Ephesians 2.10

"For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life."

Since God's will so wonderfully wove us, we know our lives have meaning and purpose. As Paul put it, "...I do not run aimlessly, nor do I box as though beating the air;" (1 Corinthians 9:26 NRSV). There are many good things in God's book for you and me to do.

Question

Do you truly believe that your life has a purpose? Not a purpose that burdens, but one that delights? Why not take this to God and reflect on it together with him?

Suggestions

- 1. Meditate prayerfully on 1 Corinthians 9.
- 2. Find out as many details as you can about the Apocalypse Tapestry and talk to God about how wonderful it is that you are more carefully made than the most astonishing piece of human weaving.

Conclusion

Next time, we will move on to verses seventeen and eighteen.

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 <u>malcolm@malcolmcox.org</u>.

Your brother, Malcolm

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: <u>malcolm@malcolmcox.org</u>.

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