

QTC552. "You Are A Wonder" Psalm 139 series part 18. 02 January 2025

"You Are A Wonder" Psalm 139 Series - Part 18 | Malcolm Cox | Quiet Time Coaching
Episode 552

Introduction

Today, we conclude the series by looking at verses twenty-three to twenty-four of the Psalm.

Psalm 139.23-24

"Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my thoughts.
See if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting."

David is expressing an impressive vulnerability in his desire for God to examine his heart and, if necessary, purify it. How do you feel about being 'searched'? For me, it depends on who is doing it and why. I had a blood test recently. They were searching for information about my cholesterol. I did not enjoy the needle going into my arm, but I was happy for it to happen because I knew the significance of the search.

God knows us better than we know ourselves

David recognises that God knows him better than he knows himself. He appears confident that his motives are pure, but he still wants God to check his heart, as he knows God is capable of doing, and to give him the results.

I will devote the rest of today's episode to reading a hymn by Francis Bottome.

Search me, O God, my actions try

[#hymn](#) [#FrankBottome](#) [#Psalm139](#) Psalm 139

1. Search me, O God, my actions try,
And let my life appear
As seen by Thine all-searching eye—
To mine my ways make clear.

2. Search all my sense, and know my heart
Who only canst make known,
And let the deep, the hidden part
To me be fully shown.
3. Throw light into the darkened cells,
Where passion reigns within;
Quicken my conscience till it feels
The loathsomeness of sin.
4. Search all my thoughts, the secret springs,
The motives that control;
The chambers where polluted things
Hold empire o'er the soul.
5. Search, till Thy fiery glance has cast
Its holy light through all,
And I by grace am brought at last
Before Thy face to fall.
6. Thus prostrate I shall learn of Thee,
What now I feebly prove,
That God alone in Christ can be
Unutterable love.

Question

Do you feel comfortable asking God to search and test you? If not, why not?

Suggestions

Sit quietly and ask God to come and know, search and test you. Notice what arises. Thank him for whatever you find.

Conclusion

Next time, we will move on to a new series.

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.

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: malcolm@malcolmcox.org.

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