

Psalm 139:11-12

<https://thebiblesays.com/commentary/ps/ps-139/psalm-13911-12/>

David realizes he cannot hide his evildoing from God in the darkness. God can see clearly through the dark, because He is in control of all things.

David continues his account of God's omnipresence (His existence in all places always) and omnipotence (His power over all things), combining the two. David begins to talk about a contrast between *light* and *darkness*, which is likely a metaphor for the ongoing conflict between good and evil in this world. The darkness seems to always be lurking at the edge of the light, threatening to encroach upon it. Similarly, David expresses how he feels about the ever-looming evil around him.

Sometimes, we imagine that *the darkness will overwhelm* us and that we will be unable to escape it. In other words, it seems as though it is impossible to stave off evil any longer. If we make a misstep, we feel as though we will be overwhelmed by its power. Other times, we feel as though the darkness will envelop us, and consume *the light around* us. Thus *it will be night*, and the darkness will snuff out the light. But David acknowledges that this is a limited perspective.

In the next verse, David asserts that *even the darkness is not dark* to God. The character of God, who has power over all things is not stopped by darkness. To Him, *the night is as bright as the day*. God is not only in control of light and darkness, but *He is the light of the world* and those who follow Him "will not walk in the *darkness* but will have the *Light of life*" (John 8:12).

The darkness is illuminated by His mere presence. So there is no way for us to hide in the darkness, or for the darkness to overcome us. Anywhere that His people go, the God who can enter all places and who has power over them, can go too. John 1:5 says that "The *Light* shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it." In other word, the power of God's *light* is so great that *darkness and light are alike* to Him, equally under His control. This means that God's light is always with us, even when we cannot perceive it with our physical eyes.

Biblical Text

**¹¹ If I say, "Surely the darkness will overwhelm me,
And the light around me will be night,"**

**¹² Even the darkness is not dark to You,
And the night is as bright as the day.
Darkness and light are alike *to You*.**