

# Psalms 139:12

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Yea, the darkness hideth not from thee; but the night shineth as the day: the darkness and the light are both alike to thee.

## Analysis

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**Yea, the darkness hideth not from thee; but the night shineth as the day: the darkness and the light are both alike to thee**—The emphatic yea (גַּם, gam) concludes the thought from v. 11. Hideth not (lo-yachshik, לֹא־יִחַשֵׁיךְ)—darkness cannot darken things from God. Night shines (ya'ir, יָאִיר) as day—to divine perception, no difference exists. The final phrase darkness and light are both alike (ka-choshekah ka-orah, כְּחֹשֶׁכָּה כְּאוֹרָה) uses ka (כְּ, 'as, like') twice—equal, equivalent, identical to God.

This obliterates our categories of concealment. God doesn't have night vision; He has perfect vision unaffected by ambient light levels. To Him who is light (1 John 1:5), all things are equally visible. This truth simultaneously comforts (God sees our affliction even in deepest darkness) and convicts (God sees our sin even in deepest secrecy).

## Historical Context

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Light and darkness were primal categories in Hebrew thought—creation began with God separating light from darkness (Genesis 1:4). Yet the Creator transcends His creation; the distinction that organizes our reality doesn't limit His perception. This verse presents God as utterly beyond creaturely limitations.

## Related Passages

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**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

## Study Questions

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1. Since darkness and light are alike to God, what does this reveal about the futility of trying to hide anything from Him?
2. How does this truth comfort you when walking through your 'darkest valley' (Psalm 23:4)—that God sees perfectly even there?
3. What would change if you lived every moment—public daylight and private nighttime—with equal consciousness that all is equally visible to God?

## Interlinear Text

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גַּם	חֹשֶׁךְ	לֹא	יִחְשֶׁה יְיָ	מִמֶּנִּי	לַיְלָה
H1571	Yea the darkness	H3808	hideth	H4480	not from thee but the night
	H2822		H2821		H3915
כִּי יוֹם	יָאֵר	בְּחֹשֶׁךְ ה	כְּאוֹרָה:		
as the day	shineth	the darkness	and the light		
H3117	H215	H2825	H219		

## Additional Cross-References

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**Daniel 2:22** (Light): He revealeth the deep and secret things: he knoweth what is in the darkness, and the light dwelleth with him.

**Job 34:22** (Darkness): There is no darkness, nor shadow of death, where the workers of iniquity may hide themselves.

**Exodus 20:21** (Darkness): And the people stood afar off, and Moses drew near unto the thick darkness where God was.

**Hebrews 4:13** (Parallel theme): Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do.

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