

# ***When Darkness Becomes Light***

an Easter poem by Ryan C. MacPherson, Ph.D.

***Thick darkness falls deeper***

Isaiah 59:9–15 ▪ John 3:19–20

***layering the land;***

Psalm 23:4 ▪ Matthew 27:45 ▪ Mark 15:33

***in sorrow cries Someone,***

Psalm 22:14–15

***“Where is the Lord’s hand?”***

Psalm 22:1–2,19

***Distant, so distant***

Exodus 14:11–12 ▪ Psalm 22:11 ▪ Habakkuk 1:2

***God’s presence recedes,***

Matthew 27:46 ▪ Mark 15:34

***yet God’s hand is close—***

Exodus 14:13–14 ▪ Psalm 22:16 ▪ Habakkuk 3:17–19 ▪ John 20:20,27

***nailed to the trees.***

Matthew 27:35 ▪ Mark 15:25 ▪ Luke 23:23–33 ▪ John 19:16–18

***Blood flows and dries***

John 19:31–37 ▪ Hebrews 9:13–14

***in the sunlight now vanished;***

Luke 23:44–45

***for the sins of all people***

Isaiah 53:5–6 ▪ John 1:29 ▪ Hebrews 10:10 ▪ 1 Peter 3:18 ▪ 1 John 2:2

***God’s own Son is banished:***

Leviticus 16:10 ▪ Isaiah 53:8

***For the sin of those taunting***

Luke 23:34

***at the One on the tree—***

Deuteronomy 21:22–23 ▪ Galatians 3:13

***they sneer, “Save thyself!”***

Psalm 22:8 ▪ Luke 23:36–37

***to Him who saves me.***

John 3:16 ▪ 1 Peter 1:9–12

***Afar in the Temple,***

Hebrews 9:3,9

***but so near in my heart,***

Ephesians 2:12

***a veil that once separated***

Exodus 26:31–33

***is now torn apart.***

Luke 23:45 ▪ Ephesians 2:13 ▪ Hebrews 9:11–15

***The Christ breathes His last***

Luke 23:46 ▪ John 19:30

***as He gives up His life,***

Isaiah 53:9,12

***to breathe into me***

John 20:22

***God’s first breath of life.***

Genesis 2:7 ▪ Job 33:4

***The old Adam dies***

Romans 6:2–3,6

***that a new may be born—***

Colossians 2:11–12

***when darkness becomes light***

2 Samuel 22:29 ▪ Psalm 119:105 ▪ Ephesians 5:8 ▪ 1 Peter 2:9 ▪ 1 John 1:5

***on the great Easter morn!***

Job 19:25 ▪ Isaiah 53:10 ▪ Luke 24:1–8 ▪ John 8:12 ▪ John 11:25

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