

Recognizing the Glory of God (Psalm 8)

There is a place near PCC called Cherry Springs Park that is rated as one of the top 7 greatest places on the planet for star gazing. On a clear night, over 30,000 stars fill the sky. Have you ever taken the time to enjoy the amazing beauty and design of the night sky? We live in a beautiful world that is designed to help us recognize the glory of God.

Romans 1:20, "For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead."

In Gen 1, God created light and said, "It is good." He created Vegetation and said, "It is good." He created the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, the beasts of the field and said, "It is good." Then He created Adam and Eve. And do know what God said afterwards? "It is very good."

As we read Psalm 8, picture David gazing up at the moon and stars.

His heart becomes filled with awe and amazement and begins to sing. "O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens. From the lips of children & infants you have ordained praise."

What are some ways in which we can recognize the glory of God and His amazing love for us? This is a psalm that helps to do that.

I. We are to recognize God's glory by looking at the Heavens: Verse 1

"O LORD, our Lord, How excellent is Your name in all the earth, Who have set Your glory above the heavens!"

The name of God is so glorious that it needs to be respected by every human being. In the Bible days names captured your personality and names described your character.

When David says, "O Lord O Lord, how excellent is you name." That means God's wisdom, power and goodness can be seen all throughout the created world. How can we recognize the glory of God? One way is by admiring the splendor displayed above the heavens. Even with all the beauty we see, the glory of God is beyond what we know. When Solomon completed the temple, he said, "

Behold, heaven and the heaven of heavens cannot contain You. How much less this temple which I have built!" (1 Kings 8:27).

The glory of God is beyond our comprehension, but with our human eyes we get a glimpse of that glory. The fingerprints of God are everywhere (Psalm 19).

II. We are to Recognize God's glory in the little things: Verse 2

The psalm does not stop with the heavens. David sings about the little things.

Verse 2 says, “Out of the mouth of babes and nursing infants You have ordained strength, Because of Your enemies, That You may silence the enemy and the avenger.”

Jesus quoted this Psalm in Mt 21:16, telling us that the most helpless, weakest human beings, testify to the existence and character of God. Babies bring praise to the Lord without even being aware of what they’re doing.

Children are funny, curious, full of life, and love. Why? Because they are a gift from God to us (Psm 127:3). Children display the glory of God. They display their makers praise.

III. We can recognize God’s glory by His creation of man:

When David saw the grandeur of the heavens, the magnificent stars and the moon robed in golden light, he ponders, “What is man that you are mindful of him? And the son of man that you visit him (vs. 4)?

To God we must be like specks of dust on the earth. Like David we also wonder, “What is man that You are mindful of him and visit him?” The next verse provides an answer to that question.

“You have made him a little lower than the angels.” God made us to be the crown of His creation. When God made man, He put something of Himself in us. The fact that man was made a little lower than God was more amazing to David (and it should be to us) than the starry sky, and the moon.

Not only is God the Creator of the Universe, He is the Creator of you and me. We are so wonderfully made that God sent His only begotten son to die on a cross so we can be saved. God visited us. He walked with mankind, He lived with mankind, then He died for mankind (Titus 2:14).

Because we are made in God’s image, we have purpose, we have value and we have meaning. See Eph 2:10, 1 John 3:1.

4. We can recognize God’s Glory by the wisdom of his Actions. Verse 5-8

As David continues to consider the glory of God he is struck by another great wonder. Not only does God care for us, but He has given us authority and mastery over all of creation. Even though we are like small specks in the universe, God has given us control of His creation, like the beasts of the field, the birds of the heavens, the fish of the sea.

We are made lower than God, but we are not made lower than animals. God never said, “Look at the animals and be like them. God says, “Look at me and be like me (1 Peter 1:16).

Close: There is no better way to conclude the Psalm than the way David concludes.

“O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth.”