

About Psalm 19

- Some of David’s loftiest poetry, centered around the glory of God
- God communicates to us in Nature and in His Word
- Three principal revelations that God has given of Himself to the human race:
 - The first is **Nature**. Looking at the things that are made tells us enough to know there is a Creator.
 - The second revelation is **the Word of God, the Bible**.
 - The third and final main revelation of God to Man was **Christ Jesus Himself**.
- He concludes with a humble expression of his inability to understand himself.

1 To the chief Musician. A Psalm of David. The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament shows His handiwork.

- Who can deny that the heavens declare His glory?
- Systems were thought were quite simple are in reality exceedingly complex, so much so that they could not have evolved randomly.
- Creation has been designed intelligently and purposefully, and when we look at the “macro” level, we see the glory of God – we see His power and His wisdom.
- Romans 1:18-22 says: *For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them. 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, so that they are without excuse, because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. Professing to be wise, they became fools, and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man—and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things.

- The “heavens” in Hebrew means that which is above, something that is lifted up.
- The Hebrew idea was of multiple heavens or realms, different spheres of reality or, as we might say today, different *dimensions*.
- The “third heaven” is the expanse or realm which God created for Himself and the angels to dwell in.
- The first heaven is the atmospheric heaven. The second heaven is a spiritual realm where the angelic hosts interact with each other and with the nations.
- The word “firmament” means an expanse and is thought to refer to the way in which the heavens are actually spread out physically.

2 Day unto day utters speech, and night unto night reveals knowledge. 3 There is no speech nor language where their voice is not heard. 4a Their line has gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world.

- The idea here is that one day declares speech to the next day, and so on.
- The order and perfection of the creation is a sermon without words.
- The word “line” means a measuring line; can also be a string on an instrument.

4b In them He has set a tabernacle for the sun, 5 Which is like a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, and rejoices like a strong man to run its race. 6 Its rising is from one end of heaven, and its circuit to the other end; and there is nothing hidden from its heat.

- The sun is compared here to the strength of a joyful young bridegroom. God has set a track or course for the sun from which it does not deviate.
- The sun is not itself a god but an object created to serve the God who made it.

7 The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple.

- Law here is the word “torah,” which means in this sense everything He has communicated in His Word. It is said to be perfect.
- It converts the soul, turning us from our own ways and pointing us toward God.
- The testimony of the Lord is that which He bears witness to – what He says is so!

8 The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes.

- The statutes of God are His rules. Because His commandments *are* fair and just, they cause people’s hearts to rejoice. God’s laws, when they are followed, create the optimal living conditions for human beings.
- David also says that what God commands is pure and morally perfect.

9 The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring for ever; the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

- In context here, David is speaking about the particular commands of holiness.

- The fear of the Lord will keep us from being defiled.
- The judgments of the Lord are verdicts – they are things that God has decided, the way that a judge would render a decision. When He judges, the Bible is clear that He is perfectly righteous and fair to do so.

10 More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb.

- Let God speak for Himself here. How important are the statutes of God? How important is the Word of God?
 - **Isaiah 55:9** *For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.*
 - **Joshua 1:8** *This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.*
 - **Psalm 1:2-3** *But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. (3) And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.*
 - **Psalm 119:11** *Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.*
 - **Psalms 119:105** *Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.*

- **Psalms 119:160** *Thy word is true from the beginning: and every one of thy righteous judgments endureth for ever.*
- **Proverbs 30:5** *Every word of God is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him.*
- **Matthew 5:18** *For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.*
- **Luke 11:28** *But he said, Yea rather, blessed [are] they that hear the word of God, and keep it.*
- **Ephesians 6:17** *And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:*
- **Colossians 3:16** *Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.*
- **Hebrews 4:12** *For the word of God [is] quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and [is] a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart.*
- **1 Peter 2:2** *As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby...*

11 Moreover by them Your servant is warned, and in keeping them there is great reward. 12 Who can understand his errors? Cleanse me from secret faults. 13 Keep back Your servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me. Then I shall be blameless, and I shall be innocent of great transgression.

- Other benefits that we have from the Word: First, it warns David and keeps him on the path of truth. Second, God has promised in many places rewards to those who will order their lives according to the Word.
- David is humble here; he asks to be delivered from the things he is doing wrong of which he is still ignorant. What a great prayer!
- David asks to be guarded against presumptuous sins of pride.

14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in Your sight, O LORD, my strength, and my Redeemer.

- When he sees the moral perfection of the Word of God, he prays that everything he says and even thinks may become acceptable to God.
- This involves first being willing to place our heart and our mouth under subjection to the Word of God.
- Let's pray for God to bring a revolution in our thought lives, a revolution that will transform in turn our speech and our conduct!

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