

Evening Sermon Outline – February 9, 2020

“The Voice of the LORD” Psalm 29

“Just as the eighth psalm is to be read by moonlight, when the stars are bright, as the nineteenth needs the rays of the rising sun to bring out its beauty, so this can be best rehearsed beneath the black wing of tempest, by the glare of the lightning, or amid that dubious dusk which heralds the war of elements. The verses march to the tune of thunderbolts. God is everywhere conspicuous, and all the earth is hushed by the majesty of his presence.” C. H. Spurgeon

I. Give unto the LORD ... –

Give ^aunto the LORD, O you mighty ones, Give unto the LORD glory and strength. ² Give unto the LORD the glory due to His name; Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness. Psalm 29:1-2

What do these words, “Give unto the LORD” repeated three times in the first two verses mean?

1. They DO NOT mean God has any need for anything we might give Him.
2. What they do mean is that we are to ASCRIBE to the LORD, glory and strength, we are to acknowledge the LORD is strong and glorious!
3. We are to worship Him, praise Him for His strength and glory!

II. What specifically are we to “Give unto” the LORD, ascribe to the LORD strength wise, is power over the weather, this is what we see in the bulk of this Psalm -

The voice of the LORD is over the waters; The God of glory thunders; The LORD is over many waters. ⁴ The voice of the LORD is powerful; The voice of the LORD is full of majesty. ⁵ The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars, Yes, the LORD splinters the cedars of Lebanon. ⁶ He makes them also skip like a calf, Lebanon and Sirion like a young wild ox. ⁷ The voice of the LORD divides the flames of fire. The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; The LORD shakes the Wilderness of Kadesh. ⁹ The voice of the LORD makes the deer give birth, And strips the forests bare; And in His temple everyone says, “Glory!” Psalm 29:3-9

1. What is pictured in these verses 3 – 9, is a thunderstorm, maybe even a tornado –

³The voice of the LORD is over the waters; The God of glory thunders; The LORD is over many waters. Psalm 29:3

What is being said here is that God speaks through a storm, He is over many waters means He is in control of rain clouds and rain!

2. That God controls the weather is a very important thing to know and remember –

A. He gives and withholds rain –

⁴⁵ ... He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. Matthew 5:45 B

B. He warned He would judge Israel’s sin by withholding rain –

²³ And your heavens which are over your head shall be bronze, and the earth which is under you shall be iron. ²⁴ The LORD will change the rain of your land to powder and dust; from the heaven it shall come down on you until you are destroyed. Deuteronomy 28:23-24

⁷ “I also withheld rain from you, When there were still three months to the harvest. I made it rain on one city, I withheld rain from another city. One part was rained upon, And where it did not rain the part withered. Amos 4:7

C. He controls hurricanes and tornados –

¹⁹ Behold, a whirlwind of the LORD has gone forth in fury— A violent whirlwind! It will fall violently on the head of the wicked.

Notice, He, the LORD, not only controls the whirlwind, but uses them to judge the wicked!

3. Not only does God the Father control the weather but Jesus, His Son does as well –²³ Now when He got into a boat, His disciples followed Him. ²⁴ And suddenly a great tempest arose on the sea, so that the boat was covered with the waves. But He was asleep. ²⁵ Then His disciples came to Him and awoke Him, saying, “Lord, save us! We are perishing!” ²⁶ But He said to them, “Why are you fearful, O you of little faith?” Then He arose and rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was a great calm. ²⁷ So the men marveled, saying, “Who can this be, that even the winds and the sea obey Him?” Matthew 8:23-27

4. *Objection – No, no, no pastor, what you are saying is not true, God doesn't control the weather! He definitely does not use it to punish the wicked! Plus, that story of Jesus stopping the storm, simply by rebuking it is pure fiction ...*

They would go on to say, even a storm like that was not possible in those days: 1. There were no cars, trucks, factories in those days to cause the climate change needed to cause such storms.

2. Even if there was such a storm Jesus could not have rebuked it calm! 3. The only people able to control weather or climate are politicians, and even they cannot do it unless we send them ALL our money, and give them total control over our lives!

5. *Question? Who do we give, ascribe power over weather / climate to, God & Christ or lying politicians?*

Give ^aunto the LORD, O you mighty ones, Give unto the LORD glory and strength. ² Give unto the LORD the glory due to His name; Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness. Psalm 29:1-2

III. *The Voice of the LORD -*

⁴ The voice of the LORD is powerful; The voice of the LORD is full of majesty.

One of the things we should hear when we hear thunder, is the power and majesty of God! "When E.F. Hutton speaks, people listen." When God thunders, people listen, at least they should!

1. *David uses this phrase repeatedly, exactly SEVEN times between verses :3 - :9*

voice of the LORD is over the waters :3 *Reference to His sovereign power*

⁴ The voice of the LORD is powerful :4 *Reference to specific power of His Voice*

The voice of the LORD is full of majesty. :4B *Majesty of His Voice*

⁵ The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars, :5 *Power destroy His tallest creatures*

The voice of the LORD divides the flames of fire :7 *Reference to lightning as a display of His power*

The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; :8 *earthquake power*

The voice of the LORD makes the deer give birth :9 *Power over birth / positive power*

2. *Jesus' Voice raises the dead –*

²⁵ Most assuredly, I say to you, the hour is coming, and now is, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God; and those who hear will live. John 5:25

3. *It is in hearing the Voice of Christ we are saved –*

¹⁴ How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? ¹⁵ And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written:

"How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, Who bring glad tidings of good things!"

¹⁷ So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. Romans 10:17 Romans 10:14-15 & 17

4. *It is through God's Voice / Word the world's Heaven and earth were made –*

³ Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. Genesis 1:3

³ By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible. Hebrews 11:3

IV. *The LORD as Sovereign King –*

¹⁰ The LORD sat *enthroned* at the Flood, And the LORD sits as King forever.

Note, He is king and Judge, Noah's flood was REAL! God's control over it was complete, like letting water out of a tub -
8 Then God remembered Noah, and every living thing, and all the animals that were with him in the ark. And God made a wind to pass over the earth, and the waters subsided. ² The fountains of the deep and the windows of heaven were also stopped, and the rain from heaven was restrained. ³ And the waters receded continually from the earth. Genesis 8:1-3

V. *The LORD as our Powerful Provider –*

¹¹ The LORD will give strength to His people; The LORD will bless His people with peace.

Ascribe to Him also the power of Peace – Isaiah 9:6-7; 26:3-4

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