

Psalm 19

19:1 To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David.

The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork. 2 Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge. 3 There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard. 4 Their line is gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them hath he set a tabernacle for the sun. 5 Which is as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, and rejoiceth as a strong man to run a race. 6 His going forth is from the end of the heaven, and his circuit unto the ends of it: and there is nothing hid from the heat thereof.

7 The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple. 8 The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes. 9 The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether. 10 More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb. 11 Moreover by them is thy servant warned: and in keeping of them there is great reward.

12 Who can understand his errors? cleanse thou me from secret faults. 13 Keep back thy servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me: then shall I be upright, and I shall be innocent from the great transgression. 14 Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer.

Introduction notes:

1. To the chief musician – Asaph, Heman, or Ethan (1 Chr. 15:17).
2. A Psalm of David. – the divine spokesman describes the impact of the revelation of God through nature, the Scriptures upon the believer.

Outline:

- A. Revelation in Creation (vv.1-6)
- B. Revelation in the Scriptures (vv.7-11)
- C. Revelation about the Believer (vv.12-14)

Observations:

1. There are two types of revelation:
 - A. General – all of creation/nature.
 - B. Special – the Scriptures.
2. God's revelation leaves man without excuse (Rom. 1:19-20).
3. (v.1) David used an inverted synonymous parallelism.
 - A. heavens
 - B. declare – continuous/on going
 - C. glory
 - C.' handywork
 - B.' sheweth (shows) – on going/active
 - A.' firmament – (cf. Gen. 1:8).
4. (v.2) Every Day and Night is a testimony to God the Creator. "speech" and "knowledge" demonstrates clear and certain discovery of God as the Author – it demands that He be glorified.
5. David focuses on the main object of the firmament: the sun. and describes it's movements in illustrative terms:
 - A. God set a tabernacle for the sun.
 - B. (v.5) a bridegroom coming out...
 - C. (v.5) a strong man to run a race.
 - D. (v.6) His going forth...
 - E. (v.6) His circuit...
6. David's cosmology is Geocentric. And so was Joshua's too (Josh. 10:12) and so was Jesus' too (Matt. 5:45). – The point is that the Earth is the center of God's creation. Scientists used to hold that the earth was the center till about the third century. Current scientists do not even view anything as the center.
7. Special revelation confirms General revelation.
8. Special terms (six): Law; Testimony; Statutes; Commandment; Fear; Judgements.
9. Benefits of Special revelation (four): conversion; making wise; rejoicing the heart; enlightening the eyes.
10. David likens them to being more precious than gold or honey (food).
11. There is warning (God warns the believers through the Scriptures) and rewards them for keeping them (receive; preserve; and walk in them).
12. God's preserved words preserves the believer from apostasy (cf. 1 Tim. 4:16).

Lesson: We are to glorify God because of His Works of Creation and the Sacred Scriptures.