

God's Glory in Mankind's Creation

Psalm 8

INTRO:

“What is man that You are mindful of him, And the son of man that You visit him?” (Psalm 8:4). This verse is why we are exploring this text tonight. After entering a little into all our Savior endured on the cross, it seemed to me that everything else I thought about paled in comparison. Then I thought about **Psalm 8** and this phrase. Why did the Lord of glory do what He did? Why did He create us in the first place, and then why did He not wipe us out and start over?

We will attempt two expositions tonight. First, we will look at **Psalm 8** as David wrote it. Then, we will look at how the writer to the Hebrews used it to teach us about the Lord Jesus.

I. Yahweh Is Glorified in His Creating Humans (Psalm 8)

II. Yahweh Is Magnified in Redeeming His People (Hebrews 2:5-11)

I. Yahweh is Glorified in His Creating Humans (Psalm 8)

Psalm 8:1-2 ***“O LORD, our Lord, How excellent is Your name in all the earth, Who have set Your glory above the heavens! 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.”***

A. David's Psalm opens with the glory of God being proclaimed above creation.

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

We think of the glimpses we have of heavenly worship of our Lord. Remember **Isaiah 6** and **Revelation 4:8**?

“The four living creatures, each having six wings, were full of eyes around and within. And they do not rest day or night, saying: ‘Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, Who was and is and is to come!’”

B. Our Lord is praised and glorified in the highest heaven and it is echoed in the lowest of human creatures. Children offer Him praise.

“Out of the mouth of babes and nursing infants You have ordained strength”

Everything created glorifies God.

C. This leads to David's Meditation in **verses 3-5**.

“When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, The moon and the stars, which You have ordained, What is man that You are mindful of him, And

the son of man that You visit him? For You have made him a little lower than the angels, And You have crowned him with glory and honor.”

When David thought about all the vastness and glory of the creation and all that God made. He is aware of how relatively insignificant man is. I am reminded of a scene in “Our Town.” In the play, the dialogue goes like this:

“REBECCA: I never told you about that letter Jane Crofut got from her minister when she was sick. He wrote Jane a letter and on the envelope the address was like this: It said: Jane Crofut; The Crofut Farm; Grover’s Corners; Sutton County; New Hampshire; United States of America.

GEORGE: What’s funny about that?

REBECCA: But listen, it’s not finished: the United States of America; Continent of North America; Western Hemisphere; the Earth; the Solar System; the Universe; the Mind of God—that’s what it said on the envelope.”

(Wilder, Thornton. Our Town (p. 46). Harper Perennial. Kindle Edition.)

This reminds us how everything God created is vast, and how insignificant we seem. Yet, God did think about us, love us, and make us the second order of His creation. Angels, us, then the rest of creation.

D. Psalm 8:6-8 ***“You have made him to have dominion over the works of Your hands; You have put all things under his feet, All sheep and oxen— Even the beasts of the field, The birds of the air, And the fish of the sea That pass through the paths of the seas.”***

In the creation God put man over all created things. Because he sinned God turned man’s dominion against him. David reminds us of this so we do not forget what we have lost if we do have a relationship with God.

E. He closes his hymn by reminding us that all the dignity God gave to humanity is to about the glory of God.

“O LORD, our Lord, How excellent is Your name in all the earth!”

II. Yahweh Is Magnified in Redeeming His People (Hebrews 2:5-11)

Centuries later the writer to the Hebrews picks up this **Psalm** and demonstrates how God indeed ***“visited man”*** and cared about us.

Hebrews 2:5-10 ***“For He has not put the world to come, of which we speak, in subjection to angels. But one testified in a certain place, saying: ‘What is man that You are mindful of him, Or the son of man that You take care of him? You have made him a little lower than the angels; You have crowned him with glory and honor, And set him over the works of Your hands. You have put all things in subjection under his feet.’ For in that He put all in subjection under him, He left nothing that is not put under him. But now we do not yet see all things put under him. But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, that He, by the grace of God,***

might taste death for everyone. For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons to glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.”

A. After quoting the middle verses of **Psalm 8** from the LXX, the writer applies them to the Lord Jesus. God did not subject the world to come to angels. He put it under the Lord Jesus who is the perfect man. Quoting **Psalm 8** in this place the Writer recognized the Psalm as a Messianic Psalm speaking of the Lord Jesus.

B. The way that God visited humankind was to send His Son into the world to ***“become flesh and dwell among us” (John 1:14)***. We did not see our Lord in His incarnation have everything under his feet yet. ***“For in that He put all in subjection under him, He left nothing that is not put under him. But now we do not yet see all things put under him.”*** It has not happened yet, but it will happen.

C. In **verse 9**, we see how the Lord Jesus glorified the Father by His condescension and dying for us.

“But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone.”

God is glorified in the death of Christ because it showed God’s justice and holiness. It also demonstrated His grace and love for us. Jesus tasted death for us!

How do we respond to what the Lord did?

First, we put our trust in Him to save us.

Second, we must never forget Whose we are and that everything we are or have belong to Him.

Hymn #196 *There Is A Fountain Filled with Blood*