

Proverbs 8:22-31 — “Marvel at God’s Wisdom Revealed in Creation!”

Let no man deceive himself. If any man among you thinks that he is wise in this age, he must become foolish, so that he may become wise. For the wisdom of this world is foolishness before God. For it is written, “He is THE ONE WHO CATCHES THE WISE IN THEIR CRAFTINESS”; and again, “THE LORD KNOWS THE REASONINGS of the wise, THAT THEY ARE USELESS.” (1 Corinthians 3:18-20)

Thomas Watson said the wisdom of God is “one of the brightest beams of the Godhead!”

- We see God’s wisdom in his **(1) perfect intelligence** and his **(2) meticulous working**. In God’s meticulous works we see **3 primary demonstrations** of wisdom:
 - Redemption (Rom 11:33-36)
 - Providence (Eph 1:11; Ps 119:91)
 - Creation (here in Prov 8; Job 38-42; Psalm 104)

THESIS — Proverbs 8 thunders the wisdom of God in Creation!**Come! Behold! Watch! Marvel! Stand in Awe!**

1. Wisdom’s **Antiquity** BEFORE CREATION
2. Wisdom’s **Activity** IN CREATION
3. Wisdom’s **Felicity** IN CREATION (joy)

I. WISDOM’S ANTIQUITY BEFORE CREATION (22-26)

- Note all the *temporal* phrases; wisdom has been around for a very long time!

- Wisdom is EXTERNAL to us. >> it’s not inside us, within us, innate to us.
- Wisdom is JOYOUS over us. It’s not a nag; >> Joy comes from wisdom!
- Wisdom is AVAILABLE to us. We are to pray & God will give (James 1:5)

II. WISDOM’S ACTIVITY IN CREATION (27-29)

A. Review of God’s active & sole & sovereign work — From Genesis 1:

- Day 1 - Light (Gen 1.3-5)
- Day 2 - Waters, heavens (Gen 1.6-8)
- Day 3 - dry land, vegetation (Gen 1.9-13)
- Day 4 - sun and moon and stars (Gen 1.14-19)
- Day 5 - Great creatures of the sea & the air (Gen 1.20-23)
- Day 6 - climactic day: mankind (Gen 1.24-31)
- Day 7 - God rested (Gen 2.1-3)

Here in Proverbs 8, we see this pattern as well:

1. Prov 8:27a- wisdom was there when God set the heavens in place (Gen 1.1-5)
2. Prov 8:28- separated the waters making clouds and oceans on Day #2 (Gen 1.6-8)
3. Prov 8:29- and when he caused the dry land to appear (Day #3 - Gen 1.9-10)

- God’s creation of the physical world becomes a ***picture*** of his new-creation of spiritual life (2 Cor 4.6).

Gal. 6:15 For neither is circumcision anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation.

III. WISDOM’S FELICITY IN CREATION (30-31)

v.30 - his “delight” [word for delight in Hebrew is **plural**]; like saying: I was ***multiple*** delights *day-to-day*.

See the progression: rejoicing **in GOD’s PRESENCE, in GOD’s EARTH, and in GOD’s PEOPLE.**

Interestingly: in v.30, 2x we see “I AM” (NASB: “I was”) - same hebrew verb as Ex 3.14 - where God reveals himself as Yahweh, I AM. This wisdom speaks ***in the same phrase***.

The God of Wisdom // Applications // Implementation ...

1. God **Delights** in Wisdom. So should you and I delight in wisdom.
2. God manifested his supreme wisdom in **creation**. Let us marvel at God's wisdom.
3. God **rejoices** in His Creation. So should you & I marvel at and rejoice in God in His fingerprints.
4. God owns and **possesses** the earth. So should we remember God rules sovereignly over all circumstances and events on earth.
5. God's wisdom **stands the test of time**. So should we stand on God's revealed wisdom rather than this world.
6. God's supreme **uniqueness** shines forth in His creation. So should we bow before God alone & worship Him only.
7. God's wisdom in **creation** reminds us of His wisdom in **the new-creation**. Bless & praise God for giving life to you when you had none.
8. God manifests **such care** for all his creatures and his creation (in all galaxies from large to small). So let us entrust our daily care, provisions, love and confidence in HIM knowing that He will freely give us all things in Christ.

In 1820 A.D. a man named Hubert Spencer gave the world five scientific principles by which man may study the unknown. They are time, force, energy, space, and matter. However, Moses, by inspiration, gave us those scientific principles in Genesis 1:1.

- "In the beginning" --time;
- "God"-- force;
- "created" -- energy;
- "the heavens" --space;
- "and the earth" -- matter.

All of Spencer's scientific principles are right there in Genesis 1:1.

SO WHY DID GOD MAKE CREATION? What are the reasons?

1. TO GLORIFY HIMSELF (PS 19.1)
2. TO DEMONSTRATE HIS LOVE (PS 136)
3. TO REJOICE IN HIS WORKS (PS 104:31)
4. TO SHOW HIS ATTRIBUTES (ROM 1.20)
5. TO POINT TO REGENERATION: GOD'S RE-CREATION (2 COR 4.6)
6. TO CALL ALL TO WORSHIP HIM (REV 4.11)

INDESCRIBABLE

From the highest of heights to the depths of the sea
Creation's revealing Your majesty
From the colors of fall to the fragrance of spring
Every creature unique in the song that it sings
All exclaiming

Who has told every lightning bolt where it should go
Or seen heavenly storehouses laden with snow
Who imagined the sun and gives source to its light
Yet conceals it to bring us the coolness of night
None can fathom

Indescribable, uncontainable,
You placed the stars in the sky and You know them by name.
You are amazing God
All powerful, untameable,
Awestruck we fall to our knees as we humbly proclaim
You are amazing God

Indescribable, uncontainable,
You placed the stars in the sky and You know them by name.
You are amazing God
All powerful, untameable,
Awestruck we fall to our knees as we humbly proclaim
You are amazing God

GOD ALL NATURE SINGS THY GLORY

Tune: Joyful Joyful We Adore Thee

God, all nature sings Thy glory, and Thy works
proclaim Thy might;
Ordered vastness in the heavens, ordered course of day
and night;
Beauty in the changing seasons, beauty in the storming
sea;
All the changing moods of nature praise the changeless
Trinity.

Clearer still we see Thy hand in man whom Thou hast
made for Thee;
Ruler of creation's glory, image of Thy majesty.
Music, art, the fruitful garden, all the labor of his days,
Are the calling of his Maker to the harvest feast of
praise.

But our sins have spoiled Thine image; nature,
conscience only serve
As unceasing, grim reminders of the wrath which we
deserve.
Yet Thy grace and saving mercy in Thy Word of truth
revealed
Claim the praise of all who know Thee, in the blood of
Jesus sealed.

God of glory, power, mercy, all creation praises Thee;
We, Thy creatures, would adore Thee now and through
eternity.
Saved to magnify Thy goodness, grant us strength to
do Thy will;
With our acts as with our voices Thy commandments
to fulfill.