

GOD'S GLORY AND OUR RESPONSE **(Psalm 19)**

I. Nature's declaration (vs. 1-6).

- A. Man has always been awed by God's creation.
 - 1. Some so much so that they worshiped various aspects of it.
 - 2. The sun, moon and stars have long been worshiped as well as other aspects of nature.
 - 3. The problem with that is the creation is being worshiped and not the Creator Himself.
- B. This was true of the Gentile world who knew of God but rejected Him so God gave them over to their own mind and lusts (Romans 1:20-23).
 - 1. God had revealed himself to the patriarchs, but the vast majority of the world failed to recognize God as God.
 - 2. They rejected Him for worldly things that they could see and make images of for their fleshly minds.
- C. The Psalmist tells us that just looking outside shows us the glory of God - the skies reveal Him to us.
 - 1. They speak to us without words, telling us that there is a God who created them.
 - 2. Without words a great sermon is preached every morning and every night.
 - 3. This sermon is unchanging - every day we are told there is a God who created the world and us.
- D. The sun shows proof of creation in that it is unchangable.
 - 1. It stays in the same path with the earth circling it.
 - 2. Everything on the earth is affected by it in some way.
- E. The problem with nature is that it does reveal a Creator to us, but not who the Creator is.
 - 1. If this is all there was by which to know God we would be in a great difficulty.
 - 2. As powerful a sermon as nature is, it is not powerful enough to reveal the person of God to us and His great love.
- F. Thankfully, God did not stop revealing His glory with nature.

II. The Bible's Direction (vs. 7-11).

- A. When one opens God's word to man, he gets to know the Creator of the Universe in a much more personal way.
 - 1. We get to see His great love and all the attributes of God.
 - 2. We get to see what makes God, God.
 - 3. We learn of His mercy and justice.
 - 4. We learn of His goodness and severity (Romans 11:22).
- B. No doubt the Psalmist is specifically speaking here of Mosaic Law.
 - 1. All of these descriptive terms are just as applicable to the New Testament.
 - 2. The reason for that is in any given dispensation of time, God's law given in that dispensation is perfect for it.

3. It gives man what he needs at that time.
- C. He first says the law of God is perfect allowing for conversion.
 1. When you and I come to God's word, there is nothing lacking in it for conversion.
 2. Everything we need is given to us to be right with God.
 3. As Paul told Timothy...(2 Timothy 3:16-17).
- D. The next phrase is another way of saying the first.
 1. God's word is sure or faithful and does not change.
 2. It makes those who have open, honest hearts, which is the meaning of simple, wise in what God deems important.
- E. God's statutes are right and man's statutes without God are wrong.
 1. We cannot direct our own steps without God and His word allows us to have our steps directed in the right way.
 2. When we follow that way, rejoicing ensues.
 3. There is no guilty conscience when following God's statutes.
- F. God's Law is pure, there is no defilement in it, thus we can learn what is right and what is wrong in it.
 1. The Psalmist believed in absolute truth.
 2. He knew that only God's word was pure and free from sin.
 3. We are spiritually blind away from God's word because of sin, but His word brings sight or enlightenment.
- G. We learn reverential awe of God when we study His word.
 1. It will endure forever if we continue to study.
 2. We will grow in respect and love for Him as we study that word.
- H. Lastly, when describing God's word, the Psalmist tells us that the teaching of God is true and brings righteousness in one's life.
 1. God's word allows for the highest standard of living.
 2. There should be nothing we want more than the life God's word will give us because it is the best for us.
- I. How much do you desire a knowledge of God's word?
 1. That tells how much you desire to know God?
 2. Do you desire money more than knowledge of God?
- J. God's word warns us of the way most traveled and how to avoid it, allowing for a right relationship with God which brings great reward.

III. **Man's determination (vs. 12-14).**

- A. Because of God's glory revealed to us, it should cause us to determine to be right with God.
- B. Are any of us fully aware of all our faults?
 1. We tend to whitewash things that we do and fail to understand our faults completely.
 2. Since this is the case we need to be sure the things to which we may be blind are forgiven so the Psalmist asks for forgiveness of secret faults.
- C. Presumptuous sins are those we make up our minds to commit.
 1. God's word, when stored up in our hearts, will help keep us from that type sin (Psalm 119:11).

2. Knowledge and application of God's word allows us to stay out of these type traps.
 3. We owe that to God for all that He has done for us.
 4. We should want to be innocent and pure before God in order to be pleasing to Him.
- D. Verse 14 is a summation of what our response to God's glory should be.
1. Our words and thoughts should be pleasing to God.
 2. If these are pure, our actions will be as well.
 3. We must strive to be right with God for all that He has done and how He has revealed Himself to us when he did not have to do so.
- E. The Psalmist derived his strength from God and God wants to be that source of strength for us.
1. He was for Paul (Philippians 4:13).
 2. He can be for you and me as well.
- F. The Psalmist knew that salvation, or redemption, was with God and no one else.
1. It is still God that saves.
 2. It is through Him that we have redemption (Ephesians 1:7).