

## THE GOD OF CREATION

### Psalm 19:1-6

**Intro:** I mentioned last week that I am going to be speaking on Sunday mornings from the Psalms. I actually began this series on the last Sunday of 2009 when I did what I have done for the past several years, either on the last Sunday of the old year, or on the first Sunday of the new year, and that is to speak on Psalm 1. Psalm 1 not only introduces to us the book of Psalms, but it is a fitting beginning for any year, or any month, or day – not only reading the Word of God, but meditating on it continuously, or, as it is expressed in Psalm 1, “day and night.”

Several weeks ago the elders decided that this year in our Bible Memory work we would repeat a book which we used several years ago – a book in which several psalms, or parts of psalms, were chosen for us to memorize. Interestingly the first assignment in that memory book was Psalm 1, with Psalm 5:11 added to make up the usual full assignment of seven verses.

So last Sunday I spoke on Psalm 5. In doing that I wanted to encourage all of us to at least read the entire psalm when only a part was chosen for memory. Psalm 1 and Psalm 5:11 make up the first assignment in our Memory Book for this year. I would encourage those of you who are not doing the memory work to pick up one of the memory books so you can follow through on the Sunday morning messages. You might even become so interested in the assignments that on your own you would memorize the verses.

The second and third assignments in the Bible Memory booklets are on Psalm 19. That psalm has 14 verses, which fits right in with our assignments of seven verses each. Psalm 19 has three divisions to it. I like the way that Graham Scroggie names the divisions. All three divisions have to do with the revelation of God. The first six verses tell us that God is revealed in Nature. The next five verses speak of the revelation of God in the Bible. And the last three verses speak of the revelation of God in our personal experience. This does not fall into the same category as do the first two sections, but instead have to do with applying what we learn in the first two sections to our walk with the Lord day by day.

Now having said that, as announced in the Tableau, I want to devote our time this morning to Psalm 19:1-6 where we learn more about creation

and the God Who was the Creator.

One year, several years ago, as I was reading through my Bible, I assigned myself the task of noting the verses and passages of Scripture in which creation is mentioned. And I was overwhelmed with what I discovered. It is the first subject that we come to in Genesis 1, and it keeps popping up time after time as you read through the Bible. I think that when God directed Moses to write the book of Genesis (which covers a period even before Moses was born), that the Lord was telling us that you and I need to be straight about creation, or we are not going to be headed in the right direction as we go through the rest of the Bible. Here in Psalm 19 we come to creation again. And the important thing about creation is that it teaches us that there was a Creator, and that the Creator was God – the triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. When the Apostle John began the Gospel which bears his name in the NT, he said this about the Lord Jesus Whom he called “The Word.” Speaking of our Lord, he wrote in John 1:3,

All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

John Calvin, in commenting on the first verse of Psalm 19 pointed out that David in that verse said the same thing twice, which is very characteristic of Hebrew poetry. Let me read his words to you:

The repetition which is added in the second part (meaning the second part of verse 1), is an exposition. For David shows in what way the heavens declare God’s glory to us; namely because they openly give us to understand, that they are not huddled together by chance, but created wonderfully by some most excellent workmaster. For it cannot be, but that the beholding of the heavens must lift us up to the Maker of them Himself; and the wonderful orderliness, garnishment and brightness which are there seen, must yield evident record of His providence. The Scripture indeed sets forth the time and manner of their creation. But even if God should hold His peace, the heavens themselves cry out, that they were made by His hands; which abundantly suffices to witness His glory. For as soon as we acknowledge God to be the Maker of the world, our minds must of necessity be ravished with wonder at His exceeding great goodness, wisdom, and power (Calvin, John, *Comments on the Psalms*, Vol. I, pp. 216, 217).

Calvin lived long before Charles Darwin arrived on the scene to corrupt

the minds of men with his God-less theory of evolution, but evidently there were men even in Calvin's day which were trying to explain the world and the universe without recognizing that they had to be the work of an almighty, sovereign God. Calvin said that even if the Scriptures were silent on the subject, just by viewing the wonders of the natural world we would have to admit that only God could have produced such a work, and that He manifested His own glorious Person by what He did.

When we get down to verse 7 next week, the Lord willing, we are going to see that God has revealed Himself in the Scriptures. But in the first part of this psalm we see that "the heavens" themselves "declare the glory of God."

I want you to notice that word, "declare." This means that the heavens have a message to give to everyone. You cannot hear it like you do the Scriptures, but you see it as you look into the heavens and so how God has glorified Himself in what He has made. You see, if you have eyes to see, that the heavens cannot be, nor could they be, the work of chance or some so called evolutionary process, but that they are the work of an infinitely wise, infinitely powerful, and infinitely good God. We look at the wonders and glories of creation, and find our hearts drawn out to God Who is the Creator of the heavens and the earth. Only God Himself can enable us to see the truth. Only He can keep us from worshiping any creature, and instead cause us to see the infinite perfections of a holy and good God Who reveals Himself in His handiwork.

The word "showeth" in verse 1 is parallel with "declare." It speaks of that which stands out boldly in what we are seeing, that there is no way in which what we see could exist except through the power, wisdom, and goodness of the God of heaven and earth.

This verse is closely related to what we have had in our Sunday School lesson this morning in Romans 1:18-20 where we read,

18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness;

19 Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them.

20 For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without

excuse (Rom. 1:18-20).

God is a God Who is continually speaking to men on earth. He has placed in each of our hearts the evidence that He exists. There are no true atheists, and there never have been. There is in the consciousness of all people that there is a God. We are surrounded with evidence of the existence of God, inwardly and outwardly. And how thankful we should be if we have seen the message in creation and heard it from the Word of God.

Notice in verse 2 how constantly the message of God is being displayed for us to see. Day after day, and night after night, creation speaks to us of a living God – perfectly wise, perfectly powerful, and perfectly good.

But this message is being declared and shown throughout the whole world in every generation. “There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard.” We must not be surprised that when missionaries have gone into some primitive tribes they have found people worshiping the God of creation. The Word of God gives them the necessary details, but the message from creation of the glory of God, is continually there, going out day and night, week after week, month after month, year after year, generation after generation.

Do you remember how the Apostle Paul preached to the supposedly intelligent Greeks in Athens when he found them worshiping before an altar that was devoted to the unknown God in which Paul recognized that they were conscious of a God they had not yet discovered. Listen as I read to you Acts 17:22-31. **(Read.)**

And this is what verse 4 of Psalm 19 tells us. This silent message which is continually coming from creation itself concerning the living God crosses all national lines, and reaches to the end of the earth. Every person on the face of the earth, whether Jew or Gentile, is constantly exposed to this silent message which is continually going out throughout the whole world, generation after generation. No one can claim to be ignorant of the truth that there is a Creator Who has created us and the world in which we live, and He has done it all to make Himself known and to glorify Himself everywhere in human hearts. There is nothing more ridiculous, preposterous, and utterly foolish than any system of belief that does not recognize that we are God’s creatures living the universe which He created by the word of His power. Don’t believe the claims that people make for themselves which ignore that there is a wise,

powerful, and good God Who is our Creator, and Who alone is worthy of our worship. More than that, judgment, certain judgment, unspeakably awful judgment, await all those who refuse to recognize the truth which is being declared constantly to them. They need the Word also, but the silent message in creation prepares them for the Word.

Now in the latter part of verse 4, David turned his attention to the Sun. For God to set “a tabernacle for the sun,” means that He has put the Sun on special display. And David had three things to say about the Sun:

- 1) “Which is as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber.”
  - 2) “And rejoiceth like a strong man to run a race.”
- And then you find the third thing at the end of verse 6:
- 3) “And there is nothing hid from the heat thereof.”

The Sun as being like a bridegroom which pictures its glory and perfection. When the bridegroom comes out of his chamber to meet and be united with his bride, he is the picture of perfection. We have to admit that nothing could be more glorious among all the wonderful of creation than the Sun.

The Sun is also likened to a strong man who is ready to run the race. This speaks of the enduring strength of the Sun. The Sun was created on the fourth day of creation, and it has been shining ever since, and it will continue to shine until there is a new heaven and a new earth when there will be no need for the sun because the Lord God will be the light through all eternity. And so the power of God is illustrated by the Sun.

Finally, we know that the Sun gives heat to the world and the universe, which sustains life. The glory of God is what gives light to the Sun.

So God has ordained that creation itself, centered in the Sun, reflects the glory of God, the Creator of the ends of the earth.

**Concl:** Wouldn't you like to ask those pseudo scientists who are all up in arms about global warning, if they have ever heard of God? They have been charged with falsifying the evidence just to get their point across. I was not surprised to hear that. It is just another attempt to exercise control over us. But we know from Psalm 19 that they are exposed to the glory of God when they look at the world, and are forced to admit in their own hearts that God is the Creator of the whole universe, and that He has created the universe for His glory. They, and all of us

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who have not heard this silent witness as to existence and glory of God, had better pray for eyes to see what is before their eyes every day they live, that God is the living and true God, a glorious God of wisdom, power, goodness, and holiness. And that they need to prepare to meet Him by turning in faith to the only Savior from the penalty of our sin, God's Son, the Lord Jesus Christ.

So look at the wonders of the universe in which we live, and know that they are evidence of the glory of God Who made us and this universe in which we live. Next week we will examine not only the message that we can see, but the message that is written for us to believe and to be saved.