

Sunday, Sept.6, 2009/ Psalm 19
God Revealed

Introduction: Psalm 19 divides naturally into three parts. Part I is the revelation of God by His creation, specifically His heavens with their host of stars and constellations. Part II is the revelation of God by His word. Part III is the psalmists desire to use God's revelation as a guide to the paths of righteousness.

Part I: Psalm 19: 1-6 God's glory & power revealed by creation.

A. (v.1a) "The heavens declare the glory of God."

1. Magnificence and magnitude of the heavens as a whole.
 - a. A clear, moonless night view of the stars inspires awe.
 - b. Also, a Christian should experience God's presence there.
 - c. Rom. 1:18-23 God holds even the unsaved responsible for knowledge revealed by His creation.
 - d. 2 Kgs. 21:3, 23:4, 5 Worship of creation rather than God.

B. (v.1b) "and the firmament shows His handiwork."

1. Recognition of specific constellations, etc.
 - a. "Mazzaroth" is the OT word for zodiac (Job 38:32-33)
 - b. II Kgs.23:5 also mentions Mazzaroth in connection to idolatrous worship of the stars, etc.
 - c. The ancients, including David, recognized the zodiac and other constellations. Job 9:9 names Pleiades, Orion, and the Bear (Big Dipper).
 - d. Many nations had names for constellations and knew all those visible to the naked eye (88 known today).
2. Astronomy (science) and astrology (superstition/science)
 - a. Explanation for the 12 zodiac signs (one for each month).
 - 1) Plane of sun's orbit and orbits of sun's planets relative

to the zodiac sign for each month (I don't intend any signs of astrology here, only the scientific basis for a different constellation for each month.).

- b. Our solar system (sun, moon, planets).
- c. Our galaxy (Milky Way—200 *billion* stars).
- d. Hubble telescope estimates **at least 200 billion galaxies.**

- Definitely, God did some very complex handiwork here!
- All kept in order by the power & knowledge of God!!!! (Discussion of Job 38:33 here) (God's infinite control)

C. Psalm 19:2-6 The heavens speak and give knowledge.

1. vv. 2-4a.
 - a. The heavens speak loudly, clearly, & everywhere.
 - b. They speak in a universal language.
 - c. Their message is transmitted directly to everyone, who sees or can hear another who sees—eye to mind.
2. vv.4b-6.
 - a. David saw the sun's importance to the earth ("In them He has set a tabernacle [place] for the sun—v.4b)
 - 1) The sun is central to our planetary system.
 - 2) The sun's distance from the earth is critical to life.

Part II: Psalm 19:7-9 God revealed in His word.

- A. The Law of the Lord—converts the soul [changes the life].
Rom. 5:20, 7:7
- B. The Testimony of the Lord is sure—wisdom to the simple.
Psalm 119:11, John 17:17
- C. The Statutes of the Lord are right—rejoicing the heart.
Psalm 119:33
- D. The Commandment of the Lord is pure—light to the eyes.
God's commandments, kept in the Spirit sanctify (Rom.8:4).
- E. The Fear of the Lord is clean – enduring forever.

F. The Judgments of the Lord are true—completely righteous.
God makes no mistakes.

Part III: Psalm 19:10-14 Knowledge of God revealed by creation
and God's word, applied to ones life, sanctifies that life.

- A. Such knowledge is precious to the lover of God. (v.10)
 - B. By it the servant of God is warned of dangers. (v.11a).
 - C. Keeping God's word brings great reward. (v.11b).
 - D. Avoiding presumptuous sins, and sin's dominion (v.12, 13a)
 - E. Justified by faith; a prayer for a pure heart and mind (13b,
14)
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