

## **Psalm 8**

### **The God-Man Relationship**

1 <<To the chief Musician upon Gittith, A Psalm of David.>> O LORD our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth! who hast set thy glory above the heavens.

2 Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings hast thou ordained strength because of thine enemies, that thou mightest still the enemy and the avenger.

3 When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained;

4 What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou visitest him?

5 For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honour.

6 Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of thy hands; thou hast put all things under his feet:

7 All sheep and oxen, yea, and the beasts of the field;

8 The fowl of the air, and the fish of the sea, and whatsoever passeth through the paths of the seas.

9 O LORD our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth!

#### I. Superscription

A. *Al haggittith* - refers to a stringed harp

B. Psalm is *mizmor*.

#### II. Literary Features

##### A. Doxologies

1. Psalm 8:1

2. Psalm 8:9

##### B. Outline of Thought

1. Revelation through creation

2. Revelation in alternating ideas (God, children, God, man)

#### III. Exegetical Features

##### A. Divine Names

1. O Lord - *Yahweh* - stands for God in terms of his moral character and divine essence

2. Our Lord - *Adonai* - master, refers to God's authority.

3. Angels - *Elohim*

##### B. Names for man

1. *Enosh* (v. 4a) - describes man in his weaknesses

2. *Adam* (v. 4b) - describes man in his relationship to dirt

## C. Other key words

1. Glory (v. 1) - refers to splendor and majesty.
2. Strength (v. 2) - refers to points of defense.
3. Mindful (v. 4) - means to remember.

## IV. Religious Ideas

- A. The heavens and the earth declare the universal glory of God.
- B. God reveals himself in his children who are mortal and weak.
- C. God reveals himself in man because of his uniqueness and dignity.