

Psalm 19

God's Revelation to Man

1 <<To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David.>> The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork.

2 Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge.

3 There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard.

4 Their line is gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them hath he set a tabernacle for the sun,

5 Which is as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, and rejoiceth as a strong man to run a race.

6 His going forth is from the end of the heaven, and his circuit unto the ends of it: and there is nothing hid from the heat thereof.

7 The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple.

8 The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes.

9 The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

10 More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb.

11 Moreover by them is thy servant warned: and in keeping of them there is great reward.

12 Who can understand his errors? cleanse thou me from secret faults.

13 Keep back thy servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me: then shall I be upright, and I shall be innocent from the great transgression.

14 Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer.

I. Superscription

- A. The chief Musician
- B. Psalm is *mizmor*.
- C. Background - possible contemplation as a shepherd??

II. Literary Features

- A. Revelation of God in Nature - Psalm 19:1-6
- B. Revelation of God in His Word - Psalm 19:7-11
- C. David's response - Psalm 19:12-14

III. Exegetical Features

- A. Psalm 19:1-2
 - 1. Heavens - atmospheric and celestial heavens
 - 2. Declare - to write in a book
 - 3. Glory - that which is weighty
 - 4. God - Elohim - God in his power and in relationship to his creation

5. Shew - make clear and understandable

B. Psalm 19:7-9

A. Six Names for the Word of God

1. Law - instruction for man.
2. Testimony - the testimony of the Lord about Himself - His self-disclosure.
3. Statues - precepts for living.
4. Commandments - Scripture is sovereign - obligatory - what we must do.
5. Fear - euphemism for worship - how to worship God.
6. Verdicts (judgments) - decisions from the Divine bench.

B. Six Characteristics and Results of Scripture

1. The Law of the Lord is Perfect - converting the soul

The word "perfect" means "perfect, comprehensive, all-sided so as to cover all aspects of a thing." Convert means to transform, soul, *nephesh*, refers to the whole person.
2. The Testimony of the Lord is sure - making wise the simple

It is trustworthy, without deceit or error. Simple comes from a word which means "open door." Wise is *schacham* - living with skill in the spiritual dimension.
3. The Statues of the Lord are right - rejoicing the heart

Literally it means that the Scriptures give us the right path to walk on. In distinction to the way of man which leads to death.
4. The Commandment of the Lord is clear - enlightening the eyes

It "turns the light on" and enables us to see. It gives meaning to life and also gives ultimate answers to life's greatest questions.
5. The Fear of the Lord is Clean - Enduring Forever

The Scriptures are without error and untouched by sin. Because of that, it will endure forever. We do not need to have the Bible updated to accommodate modern thoughts and ideas.
6. The Statues of the Lord are True - and Righteous Altogether

The Bible is true. It is accurate in all of its content. As a result, it is able to produce rightness.

C. Five things to be recognized:

1. v. 10 - It is our most valuable possession. "more to be desired than gold"

2. v. 10 - It is our most valuable pleasure. "sweeter than the honeycomb"
 3. v. 11 - It is our most valuable protection - "moreover by them is thy servant warned."
 4. v. 11 - It is our most valuable source of profit - "and in keeping of them there is great reward."
 5. vv. 12-13 - It is our most valuable purifier - "
- D. Our response - v. 14 - that our words and thoughts will be pleasing to God - Joshua 1:8.