

Intro

~ “The Cosmos is all that is or ever was or ever will be. Our feeblest contemplations of the Cosmos stir us — there is a tingling in the spine, a catch in the voice, a faint sensation as if a distant memory, of falling from a height. We know we are approaching the greatest of mysteries.” — Carl Sagan in *Cosmos*

~ While this quote shows us Sagan’s appreciation for the cosmos he lacks the understanding of God as the designer of the cosmos.

~ Everything we have has a designer and builder. A phone, TV, car, couch, computer, house, my bible, watch, and a radio. These required a designer, plans, materials and employees to build. Nothing in this universe just happened by chance to explode into its existence.

~ God designed this universe and gave man the materials they need to design and build the things we have

~ God’s purpose in designing this universe was to make man to share his glory with

~ *Is 45:18 For thus saith the LORD that created the heavens; God himself that formed the earth and made it; he hath established it, he created it not in vain, he formed it to be inhabited: I am the LORD; and there is none else.*

~ God made the earth and put Adam and Eve there to share his glory with. We know that God visited them

~ *Gen 3:8 And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God amongst the trees of the garden.*

~ It is very likely that God used to converse with them in the garden, and that the usual time was the decline of the day, in the evening breeze; and probably this was the time that our first parents employed in the more solemn acts of their religious worship, at which God was ever present. The time for this solemn worship is again come, and God is in his place; but Adam and Eve have sinned, and therefore, instead of being found in the place of worship, are hidden among the trees! Reader, how often has this been thy case! (Adam Clarke)

Ps 19:1 The heavens declare/tell/show the glory of God – what is the glory of God

The Glory of God

~ The glory of God is the theme of this chapter but it’s also a theme in the bible

~ Between Exodus and 1 Kings there’s about 46 references to this glory cloud of the Lord

~ The glory of God is so important that Lucifer was designated as the protector of the glory of God (Is 14; Ezek 28)

~ Ezek 1:26-28 describes the glory of God’s throne. (Also see Ezek 3:23; 8:4)

~ In the OT and especially as described by Ezekiel this glory of God was ignored by Israel so that Ezekiel saw the glory of the Lord rise off of and depart from Solomon’s temple (Ezek 9-12)

~ The glory of God filled the tabernacle Moses commanded to be built (Ex 40:34)

~ The glory of God filled Solomon’s temple in 1 Kings 8:10,11 (*And it came to pass, when the priests were come out of the holy place, that the cloud filled the house of the LORD, 8:11 So that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud: for the glory of the LORD had filled the house of the LORD.*)

~ The glory cloud led Israel in the wilderness (*Ex 16:10 And it came to pass, as Aaron spake unto the whole congregation of the children of Israel, that they looked toward the wilderness, and, behold, the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud.*)

~ *2 Cor 4:6 For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.*

~ The glory of God should be manifested in our lives

~ *Jn 1:14 And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.*

~ Glory is the holiness, power, leading, presence, goodness, protection and majesty of God

Ps 19 Outline

V1-6 = The glory of God in creation

V7-10 = The glory of God in the word

V11-14 = The glory of God in the believer

God wants to communicate his glory and he does so by speaking

- God speaks his glory in creation, through the bible and through the believer living a pure life

God’s glory has a voice - God’s glory speaks through creation - God’s glory speaks through creation to all creation

Text

V1 is the foundational statement of the chapter – the Glory of God

~ Glory – dignity, honor, splendor, majesty, brightness, beauty

~ This divine glory is the sum total of all God's holy character and attributes which are made known to man (Holman OT)

~ The heavens declare it = NASB says they keep telling the glory of God

~ God uses the heavens to declare his glory, splendor, greatness, majesty because most of mankind will not hear his word and obey him

~ To the believer the written word is God's means of declaring his glory but to the unbeliever creation becomes the means of God manifesting to them his glory

~ "the firmament," see Gen 1:6, Gen 1:20. It is the entire atmosphere enveloping the earth, in which the clouds hang and the birds move. Like the starry heavens above, this, too, "showeth," or rather, "proclaimeth," God's handiwork.

V2-6 = these verses show us the way the heavens declare the glory of God

V2 – continually God's glory is speaking

- "Day unto day uttereth speech" means poureth out speech, as water is poured from a fountain
- God's glory continually speaks
- This disclosure is a "soundless sermon" continually communicated in the skies (Holman OT)

V3 – God's glory speaks to everyone

- All languages and all people hear/witness it
- Creation doesn't have an audible voice yet it speaks God's glory
- Voice of God's glory
- They don't have a voice yet speak
- there is no speech, there are no words; their voice is not heard – yet creation still speaks

V4 – The message of God's glory has gone to the ends of the world

- Line = A cord used for measuring or a musical string
- The word line is used to show the extent to which the sun extends to show the glory of God
- It's as if David has a tape measure to stretch from one end of the world to the other end
- David has used this tape measure and it extends from one end of the earth to the other and it reaches
- The sun is introduced here as the "star of the stage." The sun is in the spotlight
- The picture here is that the sky and outer space are a tent into which the sun has been placed as a light to light up the heavens above.
- Holman Old Testament Commentary - Holman Old Testament Commentary – Psalms 1-75.
- Pulpit Bible Commentary "God has made the heavens the sun's dwelling-place, the place where he passes the day. There is, perhaps, a tacit allusion to the Shechinah, which dwelt in the tabernacle of the congregation"

V5 – David describes the manner in which the sun does its job and its manner of demonstrating the glory of God

- He bursts onto the scene as a bridegroom
- The bridegroom went forth to meet the bride in glorious apparel, and "preceded by a blaze of torch-light" (Kay).
- He's like an athlete eager to run a race
- It's like OSU was eager to play Clemson after the lost a game they should have won or OSU eager to play UM)

V6 – All feel the power of the sun

- Gen 1:15,16 God made greater light (sun) to rule the day and lesser (moon) to rule the night
- It goes from the end of the heaven = it doesn't start halfway but from the beginning
- It has a circuit and runs that circuit – just as a train we set up in our home and it only has one route to run and it's a circle. So the sun has a circuit and it runs it
- Nothing can hide from the sun's heat

- ~ Just as the sun has a circuit that no one can outrun so also men cannot outrun the providence and power of God
- ~ In the bible there are two examples of men who tried to outrun God. One a believer and the other an unbeliever
- Jonah (believer) – He tried to run from the call of God
 - Onesimus (unbeliever) – While he tried to run from his boss and gain his freedom he met the apostle Paul in Rome and became a believer

A comparison between the SUN and SON of God based off of Psalm 19:1-6

1 The chief manifestor of the glory of God

- The SUN is the chief manifestor of the glory of God in creation
- The SON is the chief manifestor of the glory of God in human form

2 Light

- The SUN is the light of creation
- The SON is the light of the world

3 The Star

- The SUN is the star and primary figure in creation
- The SON is star and primary figure in the word of God

4 Bursting onto the scene

- The SUN bursts onto the scene as a bridegroom and a runner
- The SON bursts onto the scene in the gospels in the form of a humble virgin born baby

5 Rejoices

- The SUN rejoices as a strongman to run a race
- The SON rejoices to do God's will (Psalm 40:8; Heb 10:7)

6 Existence

- The SUN's existence extends from one end of creation to the other
- All of creation's existence is under the SON's rule and reign

7 Power

- The SUN's power is in view and all of creation sees, feels and depends on its power
- As we depend on the power of the SUN we should also depend on the power of the SON of God

If God speaks his glory through creation why does creation ignore his voice in creation?

1 Don't recognize it as God's voice

2 The world worships the creature more than the creator

3 The unbeliever doesn't want to consent to a "higher power" because that would make them accountable

4 Doesn't believe in a creator but in a creation that created itself

5 Pride (it all really boils down to this). At the end of the day all sin is pride

6 People enjoy creation but can't look beyond its existence to see the cause and purpose of its existence, that its purpose is to reflect the glory of God

Conclusion

~ While we have the glory of God in creation as children of God we have something more than that – we have the written word of God and the indwelling HS to make personal to us the glory of God

~ In the following passages we see glory of God revealed through his word and this written word is transformational to the believer