PSALM 8

“The most valuable thing the Psalms do for me is to express the same delight in God which made David dance.”¹ C.S. Lewis

1A. THE LORD’S PRAISE (8:1)

1B. The glory of His name. (8:1a)

Yahweh is the covenant name of God. (Joshua 21:45)

Adonia is a governing name for God. (Job 42:2)

2B. The greatness of His name. (8:1b)

The greatness of the Lord is universal – in all the earth. (Psalm 113:4)

The greatness of the Lord is unmatched – splendor. (Psalm 86:8-10)

2A. THE LORD’S POWER (8:2-3)

1B. God’s power is demonstrated in how He conquers His enemies. (8:2)

We have nothing to fear if we are followers of Christ. (Romans 8:35-37)

God used a babe in a manger to win the ultimate victory over His foes. (Matthew 1:20-21; Philippians 2:9-11)

2B. God’s power is demonstrated in His creation of the world. (8:3)

The immensity of God’s creation demonstrates His power. (Psalm 19:1)

The activity of God in creation demonstrates His power. (Colossians 1:16-17)

¹ C.S. Lewis, Reflections on the Psalms.
3A. THE LORD’S PLAN (8:4-8)

1B. Man’s place in creation. (8:3-4)

Man is weak. (Romans 5:6; 1 Corinthians 1:26-29)

Man is sinful.

- Because of the sin of the first Adam man’s relationship with God was destroyed. (Romans 5:12)
- Because of the sacrifice of the second Adam, Jesus, man’s relationship with God is restored. (Romans 5:19)
- We experience the restoration of our relationship with God when we believe the gospel.

2B. Man’s purpose in creation (8:5-8)

To reflect God, but not to be God. (8:5a)

This speaks of the dignity of man - That we are created in the image of God. (Genesis 1:26-27)

“God created us in his image so that we would display or reflect or communicate who he is, how great he is, and what he is like.”

John Piper

To rule for God, but not instead of God (8:5b-8)

This speaks of the dominion of man, that we are to be stewards of God’s creation.

Even though sin has defaced God’s image in man, we are still his representatives and stewards in this world.

- Evangelistic, we are to point men to God through Christ by our words and lives. (Matthew 5:16; Mark 16:15)

- Environmental, we are to care for God’s creation as stewards. (Psalm 24:1; Genesis 2:15)

“The responsibility of stewardship remind(s) us that the garden is to be used, its produce is to be enjoyed, its beauty is to be beheld, and its resources are to be used but in a way that reflects stewardship. We understand as Christians that we will give an answer to the Lord either for not using the resources that he has given us or for using them in a wasteful and destructive manner. Stewardship does not mean non-use. Stewardship means the wise use.”

Albert Mohler

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