

Great Expectations

The Majesty of Messiah
Psalm 8
December 1, 2019

Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor. You gave him dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under his feet. - **Psalm 8:5-6**

I. A DEVOTION ON GENESIS CHAPTER ONE

- God is a great Creator. The heavens declare his glory (Gen. 1:1; Job 9:8, 38:33; Ps. 19:1, 33:6, 89:5, 11, 96:5).
- The heavens “speak to us” of God’s majesty, his glory, his righteousness, his power. They tell us something important about him (Ps. 19:1, 50:6, 68:34, 89:5, 97:6, 135:6; Isa. 40:25-27, 45:18-19; Heb. 1:10-12).
- Children and the unlearned are wise enough to praise God when they consider his majesty. It is an innate tendency in humanity to fear and worship the Creator (Ps. 14:1; Matt. 11:25, 21:16; 1 Cor. 1:20-25).
- When we look up to the heavens, our natural response should be to look down on ourselves. Nevertheless, God has exalted humankind and given us dominion and stewardship over creation (Gen. 1:27-30, 9:1-7).

II. JESUS CHRIST— THE IDEAL HUMAN

- Humanity possesses derived dominion. Jesus possesses inherent dominion (Phil. 2:5-11; Col. 1:15-20; Heb. 1:8-9).
- Psalm 8 speaks literally of humankind, but “typically” of Christ. To humankind in general and to the man Jesus in particular (Heb. 2:5-10).
- For a little while Christ was subjected to humility as the Son of Man, but he now reigns supreme in the heavens (1 Cor. 15:24-26; Eph. 1:20-23; Phil. 2:9-11).
- In the Incarnation, God became man. He wrapped himself in flesh. It was the greatest act of condescension our world has ever known. We will also see the greatest act of glory as a result (Ps. 8:5; John 1:14; Phil. 2:9-11; Rev. 5:11-13).

KNOW: The Messiah who would come would be the perfect Man. God’s majesty is displayed in his creation; in the pinnacle of his creation (humankind). Ultimately, his majesty is displayed in his Son, Jesus Christ.

DO: Worship and serve the exalted Christ!

Suggested Reading:

Pleased to Dwell: A Biblical Introduction to the Incarnation by Peter Mead (LifePoint Library #394.1 MEA).

Questions/Discovery Points for Life Groups/Families

Please Read Psalm 8

1. What do you see as the overall theme of Psalm 8?
2. What thoughts come to your own mind when you consider the heavens?
3. How does one avoid the extremes of self-abasement and self-exaltation as a Christian? How does this Psalm help us to find the healthy center?
4. Talk about the Incarnation. Why is it so amazing that God became man?
5. How often do you consider the majesty of God? How can we make such considerations more common in our lives?
6. What have you learned from this song of Advent?