

HOW EXCELLENT IS THY NAME

PSALMS 8:1 AND OTHERS

Text: Psalms 8:1

Psalms 8:1

¹ O LORD our Lord, how excellent *is* thy name in all the earth!
who hast set thy glory above the heavens.

Psalms 8:9

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

Introduction:

Psalms 148:13

¹³ Let them praise the name of the LORD: for his name alone is excellent; his glory *is* above the earth and heaven.

The name of the Lord is to be praised, because His glory is above the earth. If we are going to know God as God desires for us to know Him I feel it's important we know His names and what those names mean.

As we begin this series on the names of God we will begin by looking at what the Psalmist says about the Excellence of His name and why?

As one reads this psalm, he notices that the first and last verses are exactly the same.

The psalmist makes a declaration, and then proceeds to justify it. Having done so, he then concludes by making the same declaration again. David begins this psalm by declaring the majesty of God. He then proceeds to justify his statement by explaining his reasons for declaring, “O Lord, our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth!”

1. THE EXCELLENCE OF HIS WORK (VS. 1-2)

Psalms 8:1-2

¹O LORD our Lord, how excellent *is* thy name in all the earth! who hast set thy glory above the heavens. ²Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings hast thou ordained strength because of thine enemies, that thou mightest still the enemy and the avenger.

A. His Creation of the World (vs. 1)

B. His Conquest of the Wicked (vs. 2)

2. THE EXCELLENCE OF HIS WAYS (VS. 3-8)

Psalms 8:3-8

³When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained; ⁴What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou visitest him? ⁵For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honour. ⁶Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of thy hands; thou hast put all *things* under his feet: ⁷All sheep and oxen, yea, and the beasts of the field; ⁸The fowl of the air, and the fish of the sea, *and whatsoever* passeth through the paths of the seas.

A. His Personal Interest in Us (vs. 3-4)

How wonderful to know that God is more interested in people than planets; more interested in souls than in stars; more interested in us than the universe!

It's amazing to think that the creator of the heavens and the earth wants to have a personal relationship with me!

Illustration:

Someone once said:

“How big is God? How big and wide his vast domain?
To try and tell, these lips can only start.
He's big enough to rule this mighty universe;
Yet small enough, to live within my heart!”

B. The Potential Glory He Has For Us (vs. 5-8)

Psalms 8:5-8

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.

David says that God made man “a little lower than the angels,” not “a little higher than the animals.” Charles

Darwin described man as “the most efficient animal ever to emerge on the earth.”

What a degrading view of man! Man is not just an efficient animal; he was made by an act of God, and made in the image and likeness of God!

God’s purpose for man was that as he walked in fellowship with and obedience with God, he would lead all of creation to honor and glorify its creator. However, man chose instead to disobey and go his own way, plunging this world into sin and darkness.

Jesus came down from the pinnacle of glory to be born in a Bethlehem barn. He was “made flesh,” “made a little lower than the angels,” so that he might redeem mankind.

Romans 8:18-22

¹⁸ For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time *are* not worthy *to be compared* with the glory which shall be revealed in us. ¹⁹ For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God. ²⁰ For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected *the same* in hope, ²¹ Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. ²² For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now.

Close:

The Lord came to redeem us and to restore us so that God’s original purpose for us and the rest of creation

might be fulfilled. This, He has begun by accomplishing victory over sin, Satan, death and Hell through the cross; this, He is doing by making everyone who acknowledges Him as Lord and Savior a new creation; and this, He will complete when He returns to reign as King of Kings and Lord of Lords!

No wonder David ends this Psalm the way that he begins it:

Psalms 8:9

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