

**PP God's (un)Secret Identity: Our God is Glorious**

**Part 12 Our God is Glorious, so let us worship Him Psalm 29**

**8/29-30/2020**

We have statues made in the honor of people, even whole mountainsides carved in their likeness  
 We have museums with state of the art security that houses all kinds of art  
 Colleges have glass cases that contain championship trophies, and stadiums have retired jerseys  
     hanging from their rafters of players that reached the pinnacle of their sport  
 We have tours that you can take to see great canyons and amazing fountains, and epic waterfalls  
 And we do this because each of us are designed by God to respond to what is full of wonder  
 But it is not unusual for adults to lose this wonder, a main point of Lewis' *Chronicles of Narnia*  
**PP** *God has designed in us a deep, inescapable, internal drawing to what is greater than us*

God has hardwired our souls to want to behold His glory, and all the wonder of this creation and  
     this life, are just appetizers, previews, and snippets of what we truly yearn for  
 We've been created to appreciate, love, and desire the glory of God and the wonders of this  
     world, all creation points to this magnificent glory  
 We are imbued with glory sensors which are activated in a sunset, the color of a flower, the  
     melody of a song, the power of a strong wind, and the violence of a storm  
 But what is the glory of God, and how does it impact our lives?  
 Psalm 29 may be the most overlooked song of God's glory in the ancient hymnbook  
 And if we are going to be impacted by it, we have to understand it for what it is: poetry  
 And with poetry, we don't surgically autopsy it with a rational mind, we need to feel it  
 And for some of us, that is really difficult because we are part Vulcan, siblings of Spock  
 So unleash your inner poet for this Psalm has no requests, it is just pure praise

***"Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength. Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness." 1-2***

David sends out an invitation to come to a worship service and the ones he invites are the angels,  
     '**heavenly beings**' which is what angels do  
 They hardly need David's prompting, for when anyone truly sees the majestic glory of God, the  
     automatic response is to worship Him  
 But David's own praise feels thin, insufficient, puny in the face of God's glory  
 Have you ever felt that your testimony of praise just could not capture what you wanted to say?  
 A song you wrote didn't fully reach what was in your heart?  
 David knows his praise isn't enough to match God's glory and worth, that he needed a bigger  
     choir, a better band to sing with...so c'mon angels, join with me and let's praise our God  
 Angels know how to worship, oh they know how to worship  
 Angels aren't conservative Christians who make sure not to lift their hands in the air in worship,  
 They don't stand ramrod straight, making sure they don't sway or smile or kneel while singing  
 They know how to '**Ascribe to the LORD glory and strength**' meaning to acknowledging with  
     our minds God's supreme worth and greatness

The angels '**Worship the LORD**', bowing before Him in '**the splendor of holiness**' 2b  
 We bow by choice, submitting to our God, Who is holy, utterly in a class by Himself, above and

apart from anything in creation

This is what the angels do naturally, so David invites them to join His worship because He has seen a glimpse of the glory of God

We need to understand that this word **PP** *'glory'* is the display of God's divine attributes and perfections

The word is actually very interesting when we see that its basic meaning is heavy in weight

We give weight to an older, experienced person, meaning we honor that person's opinion

So God's glory is the display of Who He is, and to glorify Him is to respond to that display by worshipping Him as the most important being there is

But you can't turn to any part of the bible, read it, and say, *Now I know what the glory of God is*

**PP** *"Glory isn't a part of God; it's all that God is. Every aspect of Who God is and every part of what God does is glorious. But even that's not enough of a description. Not only is He glorious in every way, but His very glory is glorious!"* Paul David Tripp

In other words, God's glory contains all of Who He is, and all of Who He is evokes His glory

All of God's attributes declare His glory

Creation is the voice of God declaring His glory, His weighty importance

**PP** *"The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork. Day to day pours out speech, and night to night reveals knowledge."* Psalm 19:1-2

The pinnacle of His creation is you, and me, and we declare the glory of God

He has created us for His glory, for His advertisement

We are commercials, billboards, popup ads for God

The purpose of our church is this: *The Cornerstone family of churches exists to bring glory to God by making disciples of Jesus Christ who love God, grow together, and serve others.*

The glory of God is seen all around us, and David is about to see His glory in a thunderstorm

So pull on your raincoat and hat, and let's step outside with David and see the glory of God

***"The voice of the LORD is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the LORD, over many waters."*** 29:3

A violent storm has come up over the Mediterranean Sea, and God speaks through it

God isn't actually forming words in Hebrew to David in the rumbles and peals of thunder, remember this is poetry

But the storm's might is declaring God's glorious power over all things

This powerful storm moves inland, breaking upon Lebanon, north of Israel: ***"The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars; the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon. He makes Lebanon to skip like a calf, and Sirion like a young wild ox."*** 29:5-6

Lebanon was famous for their Cedar Trees, symbols of strength

The area was the center of the false worship of Baal, the supposed weather and fertility god

Baal's symbol of strength in the cedar trees are snapped in half before God's might

The storm reaches the heights of Mount Hermon, Sirion, which sits almost 10,000' above the sea

The people of Lebanon and Sirion terrifyingly run for cover like a young calf or young wild ox

The ***'voice of the Lord'*** is thunder and lightning storm, which ***'flashes forth flames of fire'*** 7  
7 times God speaks in this storm, 7 peals of thunder, revealing His power and glory

It is by His voice that God spoke the world into existence, and it was the power of the voice of Christ that stilled the storm on Galilee

It is the voice of the Lord in the storm that David tracks in the doppler radar of Psalm 29

The storm begins to sweep south and it ***'shakes the wilderness of Kadesh'*** (29:8)

It's ferocity strips the trees bare of leaves, frightens the doe to prematurely give birth

Everyone, animal and human is terrified, except for God's people who are worshiping Him

God's people, ***"in His temple all cry, 'Glory!'"*** 29:9

In the midst of the storm, there is no better place to be than in the presence of God

And the display of His power in the storm has moved His people to cry glory, and praise Him

But David is not finished with his poem, for while the storm has now passed, leaving swollen waters, there is a sudden stillness often seen after the violent of storms

And it is in that stillness that the true power of this Psalm comes

***"The LORD sits enthroned over the flood; the LORD sits enthroned as king forever. May the LORD give strength to his people! May the LORD bless his people with peace!"*** 10-11

The earth has been shaken by the voice of the Lord in this storm, but above it all the LORD sits on His throne

Who specifically is the LORD, which is the name Jehovah?

It is Jesus Christ, made clear in the New Testament

**PP** ***"Therefore God has highly exalted Him and bestowed on Him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."*** Philippians 2:9-11

It is to Jesus Christ the King of kings that all will bow and worship who sits on the throne forever

**PP** It is Jesus Who ***"is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of His nature, and He upholds the universe by the word of His power. After making purification for sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high"*** Hebrews 1:3

It is His voice in the storm, commanding it, enthroned above it, displaying His power through it

The angels are invited to join David and God's people to worship Jesus

To give Him the glory He's rightfully due, and the worship His perfections and greatness deserve

Christian, is there a storm in your life?

It is the voice of the Lord thundering, He sits above it directing its path, giving ***'strength to His people!'*** and even in its midst, if you give Him glory and worship, He will ***'bless [you] with peace'***

Do you remember the words of the angel to the shepherds the night of Christ's birth?

**PP** ***"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom He is pleased!"***  
Luke 2:14

God does not keep His identity a secret to His people

He reveals Himself, and each time He does, He shows His glory

Let your response be one of worship and praise, and He will bless you with strength and peace

Amen?

Pray