

Home Group Helps

Psalm 8:1-9

Christmas in the Psalms: The Image of God

I. Refrain (v.1a)

¹ O Lord, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

II. First Contemplation (v.1b-2)

You have set your glory above the heavens.

² Out of the mouth of babies and infants,
you have established strength because of your foes,
to still the enemy and the avenger.

III. Second Contemplation (v.3-8)

³ When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars, which you have set in place,

⁴ what is man that you are mindful of him,
and the son of man that you care for him?

⁵ Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings
and crowned him with glory and honor.

⁶ You have given him dominion over the works of your hands;
you have put all things under his feet,

⁷ all sheep and oxen,
and also the beasts of the field,

⁸ the birds of the heavens, and the fish of the sea,
whatever passes along the paths of the seas.

IV. Refrain (v.9)

⁹ O Lord, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

1. Launching Question(s):

- Have you ever had a powerful moment in nature where you, like David, were overwhelmed by the glory and majesty of the Lord? If so, share.

2. Observation Question(s):

- Psalms do not often begin and end with an identical refrain. Why does David do that here in this Psalm?
- How do the heavens teach us about who God is? And how do babies and infants display His glory all the more?
- In what ways is God “mindful” of mankind and how does he “care for” humanity?

3. Interpretation Question(s):

- What does it mean that mankind is made in the “image of God”? (read Genesis 1:26-28)
- What does it mean that mankind, in the beginning, was made “a little lower than the heavenly beings”?

- Verses 5-6 show mankind to be the crowning achievement of God's creation. Why is this biblical teaching essential to remember and teach?
- How does the Incarnation of Jesus showcase the superiority of humanity over the rest of creation?
- In what ways does this Psalm ultimately point to Christ, the truest human to ever live?

4. Reflection Question(s):

- How often do you take time to reflect upon God's goodness through creation? Through the intricacy of people? Through the coming of Christ?

5. Application Question(s):

- In the Gospel, we are made one with the True Image of God: Jesus Christ (read Col 1:15).
- How can you seek to both remember and be thankful for this wonderful truth this Christmas season?

December 4th, AD 2022 – Second Sunday of Advent