

Psalm 19

We have in this Psalm of David two revelations of the Creator God worship.

First the wordless revelation which alone leaves every human being without excuse to the awareness of His existence, power and wisdom.

Romans 1:18-20 [New King James] *“For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them. For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse,”*

All of the physical creation around us cries aloud of an Almighty, all-wise, loving Creator God.

[If you have doubts about the origin of ourselves and all the rest of the physical creation, please download and study our articles under the sub-heading of ‘*Evolution – The Delusion of*’.]

Second is the revelation that gives us a deeper understanding of the very thoughts of our Creator God, His Word, the Holy Spirit inspired Christian Bible, [2 Peter 1:20].

Hebrews 1:1-2 [New King James] *“God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds;”*

These two revelations come together in the Person of God’s Only Son Jesus Christ, for a final and perfect revelation.

Psalms 19:1-6 [New King James] *“The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament shows His handiwork. Day unto day utters speech, and night unto night reveals knowledge. There is no speech nor language where their voice is not heard. Their line has gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them He has set a tabernacle for the sun, which is like a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, and rejoices like a strong man to run its race. Its rising is from one end of heaven, and its circuit to the other end; and there is nothing hidden from its heat.”*

We have in these verses the exuberance of the Psalmist, King David, when he looks at the sky at night and observes all of physical creation during the day.

The counter-changing of day and night is a great proof of the power of the Creator God.

This also calls us to observe that in human nature there is also day and night, light and dark, created by God as part of His fulfilling His purpose in all human beings, [Isaiah 45:5-8], character being the end result of light and darkness being set one against the other, forcing every human being to choose.

The sun in the firmament is an emblem of the Son of Righteousness, Jesus Christ, the Bridegroom of the Church, [Revelation 19:6-9] who will at His Second Coming follow the track of the sun, [Matthew 24:27].

Jesus Christ is also the Light of the World, [John 8:12; John 5:9].

Jesus Christ diffuses divine light, the truth and salvation to the whole world by the Gospel Message He brought from God the Father.

This light is at this time shining on good and evil human beings even if they are unaware of it, [Matthew 5:44-45].

Eventually “nothing is hidden from its heat,” that is all humans will be reached with the Good News that Jesus Christ brought from God the Father.

The Psalmist, as we all should, now reflects on the value of the two revelations of the Creator God, the wordless physical creation and the Holy Spirit inspired Words of God as recorded in the Christian Bible.

The physical creation sustains what is temporal, David in another Psalm encourages us to be constantly aware of the limited life, so that we give the right priority to God’s Word, the Christian Bible, [Psalms 39:4-11].

The Amplified Bible translates **Psalms 39:12** “... for I am Your passing guest, a temporary resident, as all my fathers were.”

I feel this firmly places us in the correct relationship with our Creator God.

A very firm foundation on which to base our life, and our hopes for the future.

Psalms 19:7-10 [New King James] “*The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple; the statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes; the fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever; the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb.*”

The human mind first considers “law” to be something that is restraining, perhaps something that keeps us from having “fun.”

These verses show us how wrong such a concept is.

In these verses there are six words that we need to pause and study both their meaning and the goal or outcome of applying them to our lives.

Law – [verse 7] is the Hebrew word “*tôrâh*” meaning Decalogue, that is, **God’s dealings with all human beings.**

The Psalm reminds us that this is perfect, needing **no** additions for it to fulfil its intended job to re-educate the whole human being.

Romans 12:1-2 [NIV] “*Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God, this is your spiritual act of worship. Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is, his good, pleasing and perfect will.*”

Paul understood this need for our whole being to be renewed. This is something that only the combination of the indwelling Holy Spirit and God’s Word can do, [**John 16:8, 13**].

Testimony – [verse 7] is the Hebrew word “*êdûwth*” meaning **witness or revelation.**

Unless the true wisdom of God is revealed to us through His Word the Christian Bible, we continue to be deceived by “human wisdom” which is the product of Satan, whose main aim is to destroy all human beings.

James 3:13-17 [New King James] “*Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show by good conduct that his works are done in the meekness of wisdom. But if you have bitter envy and self-seeking in your hearts, do not boast and lie against the truth. This wisdom does not descend from above, but is earthly, sensual, demonic. For where envy and self-seeking exist, confusion and every evil thing are there. But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy.*”

Only when we offer our whole lives to our Creator God and Saviour can the Holy Spirit replace our “human wisdom” with God’s wisdom.

Statutes – [verse 8] is the Hebrew word “*piqqûd*” meaning the mandate of God. As given to the nation of Israel to guide all the people in their relationships with their Creator God and one another. Given to Moses and recorded in Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy. **When we live in harmony with God’s mandate our hearts and minds will find great joy.**

Commandments – [verse 8] is the Hebrew word “*mitsuâh*” meaning a prohibition, **something prohibited by God’s precepts.** The result of living in harmony with our Creator God and seeking to avoid all that God hates, is having the eyes opened to the real purpose of our human life.

2 Corinthians 4:3-6 [New King James] *“But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them. For we do not preach ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord, and ourselves your bondservants for Jesus’ sake. For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.”*

The veil that Satan, the god of this world, has blinded most of humanity with will be lifted.

Proverbs 6:16-19 [New King James] *“These six things the LORD hates, yes, seven are an abomination to Him: a proud look, a lying tongue, hands that shed innocent blood, a heart that devises wicked plans, feet that are swift in running to evil, a false witness who speaks lies, and one who sows discord among brethren.”*

Within His “*wisdom books*” the Creator God lists those things that are an abomination to Him. In this list we see that relationships are the main theme, all lacking the love and compassion of our Creator God.

Fear of the Lord – the Hebrew word “*yârê*” **meaning to revere.**

This is **not** terror, but a **deep respect and desire to serve and worship our Creator God.**

In fact such great love and honour towards our Saviour and Creator God will cast out all fear, [**1 John 4:18**].

2 Timothy 1:7 [NIV] *“For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline.”*

When we have an active Holy Spirit working in us, fear is thrust out, replaced by power, love and a sound mind.

Hebrews 2:14-15 [New King James] *“Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.”*

Our faith in what God has done for us through the life, sacrifice and resurrection of His Son, Jesus Christ, releases us from the fear of death.

Judgements – [verse 9] Hebrew word “*mishpât*” meaning verdict or determination.

When we use God’s Word, the Christian Bible, as our standard, then all the decisions we make in our life will be true and right.

Such wisdom is of greater value, because it is eternal, while physical wealth is but for a very short physical lifetime.

Psalms 19:11 [New King James] *“Moreover by them Your servant is warned, and in keeping them there is great reward.”*

When we apply what we have just studied to our life, we are warned about the many pitfalls a person who is lacking Godly wisdom can fall into.

Psalms 19:12 [New King James] *“Who can understand his errors? Cleanse me from secret faults.”*

The Hebrew word translated “errors” is “*shegîyâh*” meaning to stray or make an unintentional mistake, a lapse of character, [Numbers 15:27-29].

The Hebrew word translated “faults” is “*châtâ*” which means to step over a mark or to miss the goal set before us.

Psalms 19:13 [New King James] *“Keep back Your servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me. Then I shall be blameless, and I shall be innocent of great transgression.”*

This is a very different sin, one that is premeditated.

The Hebrew word translated “presumptuous” is “*zêd*” meaning arrogance, to be insolent, full of inflated pride.

The Creator God’s response to such a sin is also very different, [Numbers 15:30-31].

There is a Jewish admonition in the **Book of Ecclesiasticus chapter 5 verses 4-6** which enlarges on this attitude of mind.

“Do not say, ‘I sinned, yet nothing happened to me,’ it is only that the Lord is very patient. Do not be so confident of pardon that you sin again and again. Do not say, ‘His mercy is so great, He will pardon my sins, however many.’”

If we allow such an attitude to have dominion over us we will not be innocent of great transgressions.

The Hebrew word translated “transgression” is “*pâsha*” meaning rebellion, breaking away totally from the authority of the Creator God.

This is the very attitude of mind that Lucifer the anointed cherub had that turned him into Satan, [Isaiah 14:12-15; Ezekiel 28:11-15].

The best way to avoid such a “great transgression” is to have the same attitude of mind as King David, he with all other people whom the Creator God used in the past, **and will always use, is that of a servant, Hebrew “*ebed*” meaning bond slave.**

Acts 20:28 [New King James] *“Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.”*

Every true Christian sees themselves as having been purchased by the blood of Jesus Christ, as a slave was purchased in the market place in the Roman world.

The apostles introduced themselves as servants, [Greek meaning bond slave] of Jesus Christ, [Romans 1:1; James 1:1; 2 Peter 1:1; Jude 1; Revelation 1:1].

Matthew 20:28 [New King James] *“just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.”*

Even Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, came to the earth the first time to live a life of a servant, [Philippians 2:5-8].

Romans 12:1-2 [NIV] *“Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God, this is your spiritual act of worship. Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is, his good, pleasing and perfect will.”*

The Greek word translated “bodies” is “soma” meaning the whole life, physical body, mind and human spirit, [Job 32:8].

A person with no “rights” only responsibilities towards their Master Jesus Christ.

Psalms 19:14 [New King James] *“Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Your sight, O LORD, my strength and my Redeemer.”*

This is how we can be an acceptable “living sacrifice” offered out of gratitude to God, and worship Him “in spirit and in truth,” [John 4:23].

Matthew 12:36-37 [New King James] *“But I say to you that for every idle word men may speak, they will give account of it in the day of judgment. For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.”*

Words can heal or hurt other people.

The Greek word translated “idle” is “argōs” meaning barren, inactive or unemployed, by implication useless, not constructive.

Luke 6:45 [New King James] *“A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart brings forth evil. For out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks.”*

Our thoughts precede our words and actions, if we control our thoughts through meditating on God’s Word, the Christian Bible, then we will live a life that is acceptable to our Creator God and Saviour.

This meditative Psalm ends with a conviction of the Creator God being the source of his strength, and Saviour.

The sinner can now call himself “Your servant” [verses 11 and 13] belonging to his Creator by the covenant which the law itself presupposes.

The Hebrew word translated “redeemer” is “gâ’al” and is linked to the responsibilities of the next of kin.

The story recorded in the Book of Ruth is an example of this kinship in action, where Boaz fulfils his responsibilities towards the widow of Elimelech, his brother, [Deuteronomy 25:5-6; Genesis 38:6-10].

John 14:13-14 [New King James] *“And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask anything in My name, I will do it.”*

No prayer can be accepted by God the Father which is not offered in the strength of our Redeemer or Divine Kinsman, Jesus Christ.

Offered through Him who took on our nature that He may redeem us to God the Father, [Philippians 2:5-11].

All discoveries of sin that the Word of God exposes through the law, statutes and judgements, should drive us to the throne of grace, there to pray to God the Father through our Redeemer, Jesus Christ.

May the meditation on God's Word, the Christian Bible, show us the true evil of sin and the danger we are in because of it being a part of our lives.