

TACC, October 19, 2014

Psalm 19 “Just How Glorious is He?”

“Beauty boomerangs from God into created beauty, then through the senses and soul of the image-bearer, and finally back to God with praise and glory.” Steve DeWitt.

“We think we want a spouse, but what we really want is Him. We think we want a friend, but what we really want is Him. We think we want a family, but what we really want is Him. We think we want anything, but what we really want is Him. He is the goal of our desires, and all the beauties of this world whisper His name.” Steve DeWitt

“Wonder at reality demands the humility to sit at the foot of a dandelion. The proud are so full of themselves that there is little room to marvel at anything else.” Thomas Dubay

“Consider what I say, for the Lord will give you understanding in everything.” The Apostle Paul, 2 Timothy 2:7

“...you can understand my insight into the mystery of Christ.” The Apostle Paul, Ephesians 3:4

“The sweetest thing in all my life has been the longing . . . to find the place where all the beauty came from.” C. S. Lewis

“You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you.” Augustine

“What if we were to realize that every sunset viewed, every sexual intimacy enjoyed, every favorite food savored, every song sung or listened to, every home decorated, and every rich moment enjoyed in this life isn’t ultimately about itself but is an expression and reflection of God’s essential character? Wouldn’t such beautiful and desirable reflections mean that their Source must be even more beautiful—and, ultimately, most desirable? Beyond sensory beauty, we are instinctively drawn to virtuous beauty in the form of love, kindness, courage, mercy, and the like.” Steve DeWitt

1. All creation proclaims the awesome immensities of the greatness of God (General Revelation), Psalm 19:1-6; Romans 1:16-32; Psalm 8; Hebrews 2:6-9; Exodus 33. God cannot be domesticated, tamed, trivialized, dismissed, minimized, belittled, housetrained or controlled. He is awesomely transcendent, unequalled, unmatched, magnificent and superior in every way. This means that God abhors hubris, pride and glory given to any other, James 4:6; Daniel 4:37; Isaiah 42:8. The failure to think about and worship God rightly is the cause of thousands of lesser sins and griefs. Creation offers no assistance when we fail to worship.

- A. He is the designer. He made it, Psalm 19:1.
- B. The Maker is glorious, Psalm 19:2-4b
- C. The apprehension of this gloriousness is a joyously happy thing. God is the only soul satisfying reality, Psalm 19:4c-6
- D. No one who has ever lived understands and responds to this appropriately in repentance, faith, and worship, Romans 1:18-32.

2. God, studied and known through the Bible (Special Revelation), revealed in the Word of the Gospel of grace, is an extreme (biblically intensive, satisfying) sport, Psalm 19:7-10. Knowing Him requires the inward work of the Holy Spirit. It also requires work, study, thought, reflection, humility, scholarship, and transformation/change, 1 Corinthians 2:6-16; Ephesians 3:4; 1 John 4:6; 2 Timothy 3:16; Hebrews 4:12; 1 Thessalonians 2:13; 2 Peter 1:20-12; Exodus 33. This Gospel revolution pleases God.

3. What is the response to general and special revelation? We are moved to turn to God in repentant prayer and awe-filled worship, Psalm 19:11-14; Isaiah 6:1-8.

- A. We request for help in seeing our hidden sins.
- B. We plead for forgiveness and deliverance from willful sin.
- C. We strive for purity.
- D. We trust and place our faith in the Rock, the Redeemer.