

Psalm 19

Introduction

- The main idea: God has made himself known to man through natural revelation in the physical creation and through supernatural revelation in the Scriptures. General vs. Special Revelation. See Romans 1:20 for God's revelation through Creation.
- Piper quote on p. 98.
- Hymn 43. This Is My Father's World.
- What is God's Glory? Quote on p. 98. *

God's Glory in His World. 19:1-6

- 19:1. Heaven. Realm or realms, signifying the sky, the air and also heaven. Here we have the earth's atmosphere, outer space and heaven itself.
 - In our atmosphere or air, we have beautiful sunrises and sunsets, blue sky, beautiful cloud formations, ominous storm clouds, and powerful storms that may bring strong winds, thunder and lightning, hail, sleet, snow, tornadoes and hurricanes, and gentle life giving rains to nourish the earth.
- 19:2-4a. This is self-disclosing communication by God. This knowledge is the general revelation of God's character, especially his eternal power, goodness, genius, kindness, and faithfulness. No person anywhere is without God's self revelation through creation. This revelation is available to all, though not in audible words.
- 19:4b-6. David illustrates this using the sun. Bridegroom, radiant, glowing, beaming. Champion, strong, tireless, enduring. Like the noonday sun, God is high above man, radiant, powerful, life giving, overpowering the darkness and cold. Think about 1 John and how many references to light are there. And, of course, nothing is more dependable than the sun rising every day.
- Modern science supports rather than disproves the existence of God
 - Eric Metaxis. Science increasingly makes the case for God. Wall Street Journal. Also his book Miracles.
 - Darwin's Black Box. Michael Behe
 - Darwin on Trial. Johnson
 - Intelligent design movement
 - A single cell nucleus can have more information than a 30 volume encyclopedia.
 - The human brain is the most complex object in the universe. Billions of cells and trillions of connections.
 - So many "Just right" things. Distance of earth from sun, gravity, weight of proton, charge of electron, etc.

God's Glory in His Word. 19:7-14. God most fully reveals himself to man through his written word, known as special revelation.

- 19:7. David now gives attention to the glory of God revealed in his word. He gives six descriptions of the sufficiency of God's written word. The law of the Lord is perfect, meaning whole, complete, sufficient, lacking nothing, comprehensive. It refreshes, transforms, and converts the entire inner person.

- Trustworthy. Neither unstable nor fallible but unwavering and immovable. You can depend on God's word, it never changes. Think about how many things are changing in our modern world: so called truth, morals, science, the political scene. The human soul longs for stability. We gain wisdom through His Word.
- Right. In our modern world right has become a matter of personal preference and opinion. "That may be right for you but it's not right for me". This is certainly not what God's Word says. What is the result of obedience to what is right? Joy in the heart!
- Radiant. Not dark and mysterious but clear and lucid, brightly shining, revealing truth, giving light to the eyes. If we walk in darkness we will stumble, but God's light illuminates the way allowing us to see obstacles and things that would make us fall.
- Pure. No impurity, filthiness, defilement or imperfections. No errors. Scripture is flawless, unadulterated truth, enduring forever.
- Firm. The Bible will never need amending, updating, or editing. It will remain permanently relevant and eternally true. It is a rock in contrast to the shifting sands of our society and culture.
- 19:10-11.
 - More precious than gold. God's word is infinitely more desirable and valuable than anything in this world has to offer. How much do I value God's word. Do I spend time in God's word? Try to learn more and more of it?
 - Honey. Fully satisfies our spiritual hunger and a source of great pleasure and enrichment. God made us to have a spiritual hunger that can be satisfied only by a relationship with Him.
 - Scripture warns us against temptation, Sin, error, and every other spiritual threat to our spiritual well-being. Think about warning signs on the highway as you travel. There is great reward in obedience.
- 19:12-13. A rhetorical question. The implication is that only the person who reads, studies, and meditate on God's word will be able to discern his errors. Scripture reveals hidden faults. Do I want my hidden faults and pet sins to be revealed? But Scripture can also keep me from more obvious willful sins and addictions that may gain control over me. A person caught in sin is not free, he is bound in chains.
- 19:14. Only the word of God applied by the Spirit of God could make his mouth and heart so pleasing before God and His all knowing gaze.

Summary and Application

- General vs. Special Revelation
- Do I meditate on all that God has done to reveal himself to me?
- Do I long for him to sell God and his word more than anything else in my life?
- What rewards have I received by following God's Word?