

Running Our Course with Joy

Psalm 19

Main Idea

God has designed us to declare His glory like the Sun. We need the Word and we need Gods grace to be ushered into that great reward for living as we were designed.

Overview

Look up and Listen to the Glory of God: Vss. 1-6

- David (author) understands that the heavens/sky declare (herald) the glory (beauty) of God
- He also understands that the skies proclaim His work:
 - There is an emphasis here not just on the work itself, but on the one who made it
 - Psalm 19 wants us to see through creation and into the face of a Glorious God that has declared His greatness in creation
- Vss 3-4: This 'sermon' of the skies is seen and understand by all
- Vs. 5: The Sun comes out like a bridegroom leaving its chamber:
 - It comes out in splendor/beauty/glory (just as Christ did from Rez.)
- Vs. 5: The Sun runs its course with joy like a strong man runs his course with joy
 - The circuit of the Sun is run above our heads in joy as it declares the glory of God
- Vs. 6: The Sun does this from one end of the skies to the other and nothing is hidden from the heat of the sun just like no one is hidden from its message:
 - Romans 1.19-20: No one has an excuse as to whether or not they have heard that God is glorious and all together powerful and divine (therefore to be worshiped)
 - This would explain why every culture on the earth worships god in some way/shape or form

Look in and find the Glory of God: Vss. 7-11

- Vs. 7 is strategically placed after vs. 6 to say that while the skies declare the glory of the God generally, the Scriptures (here law) declare the glory of the Lord in its completion/wholeness/completeness (this is what the word for 'perfect' means)
 - The Word makes us whole/complete where creation cannot (Special Revelation)
- Vs. 7b: The testimony of the Lord (in the Bible) is sure, making wise the simple:
 - Paul has the same conclusion in his words to Timothy in 2 Tim. 3.15-17
- Vs. 8: The precepts (teachings) of the Lord are right:
 - The Word of God was given that you might walk in righteousness and have your heart rejoice just like the strong man (Sun) that runs its course
 - Not to keep you FROM Joy, but to lead you into it
- Vs. 8b: The Lords commands are pure (not lacking anything or have been corrupt by anything), they enlighten our fuzzy eyes
- Vs. 9: As our eyes are enlightened we see the Lord for who He actually is (not who we have made Him out to be) and, like Isaiah, we shudder in fear (awe) of the Lord and this is clean because the Lord is clean and it endures forever since the Lord endures forever
- Vs. 9b: The Word is True and righteous altogether:
 - The degree to which we deny them we deny the same "circuit" we were meant to run in (like the sun), therefore we will not know the joy we were made for in declaring the Glory of God
- Vss. 10-11: Given these meditations we can understand why we should treasure the word and see its benefit for us

Look out and display the Glory of God: Vss. 12-14

- Vs. 12: Having heard and seen the glory of the Lord in creation and in the Word David sees His guilt and goes to God in prayer and asks for grace for forgiveness in order that he may run the course set before him as the sun
- Vss. 12-13: All of David's hope is in the Lord of Glory (not himself) in order that sin (that he has seen in himself as he listens to world and word) might not have dominion over him
 - Note the question: "Who can discern his errors? Implication "Not us"
 - Note the "let(s)": David's hope is in the power of the Lord keeping sin from him
- Vs. 14: Because of Christ the Lord, the Rock and the Redeemer, He has become ours (my) and all of the innocence that David prays for is counted to us in Christ!
 - This is how we live to declare the glory of God

Questions

Discussion Starter: *Look out the window and ask how the skies declare the glory of the Lord.*

1. Read Psalm 19.1-6: Describe how the sky/sun declare the glory of the Lord. Who has heard it? Why is this significant to David/Text?
2. How are our lives to be similar to the circuit of the Sun? What is the result?
3. Read Psalm 19.7-11: In what ways does the text of the Bible understand itself? What does the Word do to those who study it?
4. How are you doing this? How does Restoration Church do this?
5. Why is the Word so important? In what ways is it more specific than creation? Why do we need it and not just creation?
6. Note the drive to pray after considering these things and note the requests for Grace. Why does it seem that David is led into prayer? What does he ask for? Where is David's hope? How is this the same/different than our prayers?
7. How is Christ our Rock and Redeemer?
8. How does this make possible David's request to be innocent/blameless/acceptable?
9. What have you learned from meditating on this passage for your/our life in declaring the glory of the Lord?

Accountability Question: *How have you been thinking poorly about the Word and Prayer? (Try and help them see more fully that these things are given to us for our joy so that we can run in the path that we were meant to live)*

How have you neglected seeking the Lord in Word/prayer and asking for grace to display His glory? Where have you seen God's grace in seeking the Lord in Word/prayer?

Share encouraging stories where you have seen God's grace in others.