

PSALM 19:1-14

CHAPTER STUDIES ON THE PSALTER

"God's existence, power, wisdom, and goodness are being sounded by the heavenly heralds that shine on us."

(Psalm 19:1) The heavens declare, or, are declaring. The continuance of their testimony is intended by the participles used. At every moment, God's existence, power, wisdom, and goodness are being sounded by the heavenly heralds that shine on us. Those who would guess at divine sublimity should gaze into the starry vault. Those who would imagine infinity must peer into the boundless expanse. Those who want to see divine wisdom should consider the balancing of the orbs. Those who would know divine fidelity must mark the regularity of the planets' motions. Those who would attain some conception of divine power, greatness, and majesty must estimate the forces of attraction, the magnitude of the fixed stars, and the brightness of the celestial train.

It is not merely glory that the heavens declare, but, **the glory of God**. They deliver such unanswerable arguments for a conscious intelligent, planning, controlling, and presiding Creator that no unbiased person can re-main unconvinced. The testimony given by the heavens is no mere hint; it is a plain, unmistakable declaration of the most constant and abiding kind. Yet for all this, to what avail is the

loudest declaration to the deaf or the clearest showing to the spiritually blind? God the Holy Spirit must illuminate us, or all the suns in the Milky Way never will.

(Psalm 19:13) Keep back thy servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me. This earnest and humble prayer teaches that saints may fall into the worst of sins unless restrained by grace. They must watch and pray lest they enter temptation; there is a natural proneness to sin in the best of us. We must be held back like a horse is held back by the bit. Presumptuous sins are especially dangerous. All sins are great sins, but some sins are greater than others. Every sin has the venom of rebellion and a marrow full of traitorous rejection of God. Yet some sins have the mischief of rebellion greatly developed and wear a brazen pride that defies the Most High.

(Psalm 19:14) Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my Redeemer. Here is a sweet prayer, so spiritual that it is almost as common in Christian worship as the apostolic benediction. **Words** are mockery if the heart does not meditate. The shell is nothing without the kernel, but

both together are useless unless accepted. Even if accepted by man, it is worthless if not acceptable in the sight of God. In prayer, we must view Jehovah as our **strength** enabling and our **Redeemer** saving, or we do not pray right. It is well to feel our personal interest and use the word my, or our prayers will be hindered. My **Redeemer** makes a blessed ending to this Psalm. It began with the heavens, but it ends with Him whose glory fills heaven and earth.

(*The Treasury of David*, Charles Haddon Spurgeon, updated by Mark Wash)

Show how the sun in nature and His "Son" are both centers. How does our thinking change when we acknowledge God as being the Supreme Architect? Romans 8:28, Colossians 1:16

What are presumptuous sins (Psalm 19:13) and how are they to be dealt with?



PDF Editor