

PSALM 29:1-11

CHAPTER STUDIES ON THE PSALTER

"God is everywhere conspicuous, and the majesty of His presence hushes all the earth."

This Psalm expresses the glory of God as heard in the pealing thunder and seen in the tornado. Psalm 8 is to be read by moonlight when the stars are bright. Psalm 19 needs the rays of the rising sun to bring out its beauty. Psalm 29 is best repeated under the black wing of the tempest by the glare of lightning, or in the dubious dusk that heralds the war of elements. The verses march to the tune of thunderbolts. God is everywhere conspicuous, and the majesty of His presence hushes all the earth.

(Ps. 29:3) The voice of the LORD is upon the waters. The thunder is not only poetically but also instructively called "the voice of God," for it peals from on high. Thunder surpasses all other sounds. It inspires awe and is entirely independent of man. Often it has been the grand accompaniment of God's speech to Adam's children. There is a special terror in a storm at sea; deep calls to deep, and the raging sea echoes to the angry sky. No sight is more alarming than the flash of lightning around the mast of the ship. No sound is more calculated to inspire reverent awe than the storm's roar.

(Ps. 29:8-9) The voice of the LORD shaketh the wilderness; the LORD shaketh the Wilderness of Kadesh. The voice of

the LORD maketh the hinds [deer] to calve [give birth] and discoverth the forests [and strips the forest bare]. Our first parents sought refuge among the trees, but the voice of the Lord soon found them and made their hearts tremble (Gen. 3:8-13). There is no hiding from the fire-glance of the Almighty. One flash of His angry eye turns midnight into noon. The gospel has a similar revealing power in dark hearts; in a moment it lights every recess of the heart and invites the soul to tremble before the Lord. (*The Treasury of David*, Charles Haddon Spurgeon, updated by Mark Wash)

Is it a command to worship and give glory to God? Deut. 32:3-4 1 Chr. 16:23-30 2 Chr. 20:21 Ps. 29:1-2
Ps. 96:7-9 Ps. 111:1-4