

The Majesty and Mystery of God in the New Man

Sunday, September 8, 2024 ▪ Brad Manley

1. The majesty of God's glory in _____. (1, 9)

2. The mystery of God's glory in _____ . (3-8)

3. The majesty and mystery of God's glory in the _____ . (2, 6)

Psalm 8:1-9

¹ O LORD, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!
You have set your glory above the heavens.

² Out of the mouth of babies and infants,
you have established strength
because of your foes,
to still the enemy and the avenger.

³ When I look at your heavens,
the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars,
which you have set in place,

⁴ what is man that you are mindful of him,
and the son of man that you care for him?

⁵ Yet you have made him a little lower
than the heavenly beings
and crowned him with glory and honor.

⁶ You have given him dominion
over the works of your hands;
you have put all things under his feet,

⁷ all sheep and oxen,
and also the beasts of the field,
⁸ the birds of the heavens, and the fish of the sea,
whatever passes along the paths of the seas.

⁹ O LORD, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!
(ESV)

Personal Reflection or Group Discussion Questions

Open: Share about a place you go or something you do that stirs in you a heart of worship toward God.

Read & Discuss: Psalm 8

1. This psalm begins and ends with the same statement (vv. 1, 9). How would you express that statement in your own words? What is significant about bracketing this psalm with this phrase?
2. What do you think the psalmist means when he says God has “set [His] glory above the heavens” (v. 1b)? Browse through Psalm 8 again. What are all the things mentioned in this psalm that have been created by God? How do these things all reveal the glory of God?
3. In what ways is verse 2 a contrast to verse 1? What does this communicate about the way the power of God is sometimes displayed? **Read 1 Corinthians 1:26-29.** How is this display of God’s power evident in our salvation? **Read Matthew 21:12-16.** What is Jesus’ point in applying Psalm 8:1-2 to His own entry into Jerusalem?
4. Verses 3 and 4 form another contrast in this psalm. How would you describe it? How would you explain both the question of verse 4 and the answer in this psalm that is given to this question? What should be our response to the truths revealed in verses 3-4?
5. According to verses 6-8, the way God crowned man with glory and honor at the time of creation was by giving him dominion over all other creatures. (*See Genesis 1:26-28.*) What do you think God intended by this commission? In your view, how has man done with this responsibility?
6. Given the New Testament references to this psalm, it is evident that this psalm had even greater meaning than an Old Testament reader would have seen. In describing man’s God-given dominion, the psalmist says, “you have put all things under his feet” (v. 6). **Read 1 Corinthians 15:20-28; Hebrews 2:5-9.** In light of these New Testament verses, what significance does this phrase have regarding Jesus? How will this second Adam (Jesus) undo the failure of the first Adam?
7. As we await Jesus’ return, we are given “dominion” over the earth (v. 6). Although phrases like “under his feet,” might allow an excuse for some to exploit creation, how does the whole of this psalm counter that idea? How would you summarize the world view expressed in this psalm and the responsibilities that come with that ordering by God?

Apply: How does this psalm encourage you to create or strengthen patterns in your life which acknowledge God’s ordering of creation?

Pray: Spend time praising the God whose name is majestic in all the earth and whose glory is above the heavens. Ask for God to help us live in our appropriate place in His creation.