

PSALM 8

A creation psalm

Acknowledging God's majesty as creator

PREPARATION:

Carefully read Psalm eight seeking to answer these questions about the text:

1. With what words of praise does the psalmist begin and end this psalm? (v. 1,9) What is the psalmist affirming about the Lord?
2. Where had God displayed his splendor? (v. 1)
3. From whom had God established strength? (v. 2) What use did God make of this strength? (v. 2)
4. What fact about God caused David to marvel? (v. 3-4)
5. How does David describe man's relation to God? (v. 5) With what is he crowned?
6. What position does he have in the creation? (v. 6) Over what does he rule or have dominion? (v. 7-8)

KEY QUESTION:

Write in your own words below what you think is the main message of this psalm.

**FOR CLASS
DISCUSSION:**



Historical and cultural setting

1. Man is said to be made lower than the “elohim” (Hebrew text), the word commonly used for God in the OT. Why would the psalmist use this word here?
2. Some have pointed to “the paths of the sea” as evidence of pre-scientific knowledge expressed in Scripture by inspiration. Do you consider this argument valid?



What does this psalm tell us about God and His people?

Jesus used the words of Psalm 8:2 to teach what lesson? (Mt. 21:16)

Did the Hebrew writer believe that man has fully possessed the dominion described in Psalm 2? Who did the Hebrew writer say truly fulfills this psalm’s declaration of the dominion of man over all the creation (Heb. 2:5-10)

How do these verses show that Jesus is the “Adam” or head of a “new creation?” (Rom. 5:12-21; 1 Cor. 15:45). What implications do these texts have for the Last Adam’s sons and daughters?(Eph. 2:8-10; Col. 2:10-11; Gal. 6:15)

How could the Christian apply the teaching of this psalm to his life today?

