

Sermon: God's Revelation for God's People;
delivered January 5, 2020, by Ben Panner, college pastor

Bible text explored: Psalm 19

¹The heavens declare the glory of God,
and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.
²Day to day pours out speech,
and night to night reveals knowledge.
³There is no speech, nor are there words,
whose voice is not heard.
⁴Their voice goes out through all the earth,
and their words to the end of the world.
In them he has set a tent for the sun,
⁵which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his chamber,
and, like a strong man, runs its course with joy.
⁶Its rising is from the end of the heavens,
and its circuit to the end of them,
and there is nothing hidden from its heat.
⁷The law of the LORD is perfect,
reviving the soul;
the testimony of the LORD is sure,
making wise the simple;
⁸the precepts of the LORD are right,
rejoicing the heart;
the commandment of the LORD is pure,
enlightening the eyes;
⁹the fear of the LORD is clean,
enduring forever;
the rules of the LORD are true,
and righteous altogether.
¹⁰More to be desired are they than gold,
even much fine gold;
sweeter also than honey
and drippings of the honeycomb.
¹¹Moreover, by them is your servant warned;
in keeping them there is great reward.
¹²Who can discern his errors?
Declare me innocent from hidden faults.
¹³Keep back your servant also from presumptuous sins;
let them not have dominion over me!
Then I shall be blameless,
and innocent of great transgression.
¹⁴Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable in your sight,
O LORD, my rock and my redeemer. [ESV]

Review and application:

This psalm of David concentrates on the two basic sources supporting his understanding of God: the world and the Word.

1. How (vv. 1-4a) do the silent heavens declare the glory of the Creator?

2. How (vv. 4b-6) does the brightness and heat of the sun's daily sweep across the sky underscore God's power?

What about God's power is revealed to everyone by the universe he created? (See *Rom. 1:19-20*.)

What attributes can believers also infer from the created order? (See, for instance, *Psa. 89:5* and *97:6*.)

*As David turns to the second source, he shifts to using the name God has directly revealed to his own people, indicated in English with small capital letters as LORD. (See *Exod. 3:14-15; 33:14; 34:5-6*.)*

3. What six qualities of God's Word in written form (vv. 7-9) does David single out?

What life-nurturing benefits will reflecting on them produce?

4. What transforming power (v. 10) makes God's Word such a treasure? (See *Deut. 5:33*.)

What (v. 11) makes turning to it so satisfying? (See *Prov. 24:13-14*.)

5. What should we humbly do (vv. 12-13) to ward off succumbing to deliberate sins or to faults of which are unaware?

On what basis can we be rendered blameless? (See *Hebrews 1:1-3*.)

6. How (v. 14) can we find the strength to please God?

What feeling does the fortress image of "rock" symbolize about God?

What feeling does the deliverance of a "redeemer" evoke?