

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?