

# PSALM 19 - PART ONE

*“Are You Talking to Me?”*

Psa 19:1 To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David. The heavens declare the glory of God; And the firmament shows His handiwork.

Psa 19:2 Day unto day utters speech, And night unto night reveals knowledge.

Psa 19:3 *There is* no speech nor language *Where* their voice is not heard.

Psa 19:4 Their line has gone out through all the earth, And their words to the end of the world. In them He has set a tabernacle for the sun,

Psa 19:5 Which *is* like a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, *And* rejoices like a strong man to run its race.

Psa 19:6 Its rising *is* from one end of heaven, And its circuit to the other end; And there is nothing hidden from its heat.

Psa 19:7 The law of the LORD *is* perfect, converting the soul; The testimony of the LORD *is* sure, making wise the simple;

Psa 19:8 The statutes of the LORD *are* right, rejoicing the heart; The commandment of the LORD *is* pure, enlightening the eyes;

Psa 19:9 The fear of the LORD *is* clean, enduring forever; The judgments of the LORD *are* true *and* righteous altogether.

Psa 19:10 More to be desired *are they* than gold, Yea, than much fine gold; Sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb.

Psa 19:11 Moreover by them Your servant is warned, *And* in keeping them *there is* great reward.

Psa 19:12 Who can understand *his* errors? Cleanse me from secret *faults*.

Psa 19:13 Keep back Your servant also from presumptuous *sins*; Let them not have dominion over me. Then I shall be blameless, And I shall be innocent of great transgression.

Psa 19:14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart Be acceptable in Your sight, O LORD, my strength and my Redeemer.

Let me tell you a story...

In 1867, a bearded Norwegian missionary named Lars Skrefsrud and his Danish colleague, a layman named Hans Børreson, found two-and-a-half million people called the Santal living in a region north of Calcutta, India. Skrefsrud soon proved himself an amazing linguist. He quickly became so fluent in Santal that people came from miles around just to hear a foreigner speak their language so well. As soon as possible, Skrefsrud began proclaiming the Gospel to the Santal.

Naturally he wondered how many years it would take before Santal people, until then so far removed from Jewish or Christian influences, would even show interest in the Gospel, let alone open their hearts to it. To Skrefsrud's utter amazement, the Santal were electrified almost at once by the Gospel message. At length he heard Santal sages, including one named Kolean, exclaim, "What this stranger is saying must mean that Thakur Jiu has not forgotten us after all this time!"

Skrefsrud caught his breath in astonishment. Thakur was a Santal word meaning "genuine." Jiu meant "god." The Genuine God? Clearly, Skrefsrud was not introducing a new concept by talking about one supreme God. That name, obviously, had been on Santal lips for a very long time!

"How do you know about Thakur Jiu?" Skrefsrud asked. "Our forefathers knew Him long ago," the Santal replied, beaming.

The story comes from the book, *Eternity in Their Hearts*, by missionary Don Richardson. It is one of dozens he recounts from church history.

Richardson goes on to document tens of thousands of conversions as the Santal heard how Jesus Christ could redeem them to “the genuine God.”

Summarizing an amazing story about the Karen people of Burma, Richardson says this about their tradition that a deliverer would come:

The Deliverer [of the Karen]... was to be a ‘white foreigner,’ and was to come across the sea from the west with ‘white wings’ [sails] and bring Y’wa’s ‘white book.’” Some versions of the tradition said the book would be of gold and silver [referring to the gold or silver leafed pages in a Bible]. The Karen nation was thus poised like an 800,000-member welcoming party, ready for the first unsuspecting missionary who approached them with a Bible and a message of deliverance from God.

The point Richardson makes over-and-over in the book is that God prepares the Gospel for all peoples on earth, and simultaneously prepares all peoples on earth for the Gospel.

Even with so many incredible examples, we can’t simply believe Richardson. But we can believe the apostle Paul, who indicated much the same when, on Mars Hill, he said,

Act 17:26 And [God] has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings,  
Act 17:27 so that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us...

It sure sounds as if God has prepared folks by scattering them all over, not so they will be lost for eternity, but precisely so they will seek Him and find Him.

How does God reveal Himself to unevangelized people? One way, according to Psalm nineteen, is through Creation. It is a revelation to all men, throughout all time, everywhere.

Psa 19:1 To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David. The heavens declare the glory of God; And the firmament shows His handiwork.

Look around you; look up, day or night, and you immediately understand Someone made the universe. There is, obviously, what we call intelligent design. Life, and the universe, cannot have arisen by chance but was designed and created by some intelligent entity.

As glorious as it is, I think the psalmist had something more in mind than just Creation itself. Let me give you one example.

Until recently, trustworthy, conservative scholars and Bible teachers spoke openly about God putting the Gospel in the stars.

Dr. Henry Morris, a giant in the field of Christian young-earth creationism, had in his book, *Many Infallible Proofs*, a chapter explaining it.

Today if I even mention it, I get accused of believing in astrology.

One commentator said, “Although the present corrupt astrological use of the signs of the Zodiac is forbidden by God (e.g., Isaiah 47:12-14), the original message... “brought forth by God” season

after season, centered on the promised victorious coming of the Redeemer.”

Truth is, there **is** a rudimentary Gospel in the stars. The Hebrew name for it is *Mazzaroth*. It is the Gospel preached through the constellations.

Starting with Virgo, which represents the virgin birth, and arriving at Leo, which portrays the Lion, you have the Gospel story.

Chuck Missler wrote:

The signs of the zodiac, the Hebrew *Mazzaroth*, laid out God’s entire redemptive plan long before Moses. There would be a redeemer, born of a virgin, who would take on the battle with the serpent, the dragon, **and He would win!**

(I’ll throw out a couple more names of solid, prominent evangelicals who saw that God preached the Gospel in the stars: Dr. Donald Gray Barnhouse, and Dr. D. James Kennedy).

In Isaiah 40:26 and Psalm 147:4, we discover that God named the stars and calls them by their names. He can, and He does, use them to reveal Himself to those He has scattered.

Psa 19:2 Day unto day utters speech, And night unto night reveals knowledge.

Psa 19:3 *There is* no speech nor language *Where* their voice is not heard.

Remember Esperanto? It was supposed to become the universal language for all the nations of the world. Not so much.

Creation *is* a universal spiritual language, “heard” everywhere, that “utters speech” about its Creator. It “reveals knowledge” about God.

The apostle Paul explained that “since the Creation of the world,” God’s invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that nonbelievers are without excuse (Romans 1:20).

“Invisible attributes” are more than just His raw power; it is things like His mercy, new every morning in the orderly flow of time and seasons.

Creation, in some way, reveals the “Godhead.” William MacDonald says Godhead is more than just His deity; it refers to His character.

Here is what I’m getting at. We normally say that Creation reveals there must be a God, but that not very much can be known about Him from it; and you might even conclude from Creation that He is cruel.

**But Psalm nineteen counters that logic - suggesting Creation is, in fact, a positive revelation of God’s attributes and character.**

Psa 19:4 Their line has gone out through all the earth, And their words to the end of the world. In them He has set a tabernacle for the sun,

“Line” and “words” keep emphasizing that Creation is a language God speaks to human hearts.

The title of the Don Richardson book is from Ecclesiastes where Solomon says God has put eternity in men's hearts. **Creation is the "line" and "words" that are understood by the eternity in our hearts.**

Creation activates that place in us that God has put so we would seek Him. Our hearts somehow resonate with thoughts like David expressed when we contemplate Creation.

David describes the "sun" as if it was a person dwelling in a glorious tent. Then he further describes that person, saying,

Psa 19:5 Which *is* like a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, *And* rejoices like a strong man to run its race.

The "sun" does more than show us God's power. It suggests an image of the bridegroom.

How is the sun like a bridegroom exiting his chamber? The bridegroom is full of joy. The sun communicates the joy of Creation, and hints that the Creator wants you to enjoy Him.

How is the sun "rejoic[ing] like a strong man to run its race?" It speaks of God's joy as not diminishing. He keeps seeking us, to be enjoyed by us.

Psa 19:6 Its rising *is* from one end of heaven, *And* its circuit to the other end; *And* there is nothing hidden from its heat.

You can't always see the sun, but we are thankful for its "heat." I was reading about the recent total solar eclipse. At totality, temperatures could drop by close to 30\*.

Also in this word “heat” is the hint of the seasons of the earth. The sun’s heat isn’t constant, but we go through the seasons. In them we can hear, in our hearts, that the Creator is faithful, and that He cares for us.

“The heavens declare the glory of God.” Not just in showing us His terrifying raw power. No, there is a language in Creation that speaks to our hearts.

So for sure, while Creation itself is glorious, *what it communicates is the real glory of God.*

Creation is a revelation of God, sufficient to be used by God to begin to draw men to Himself by His further providence.