

## The Learned Man

Jesus in the Psalms

*Psalm 19*

Stuart W. Bryan

### I. Excuses, excuses... (cf. Gen 3:11-12)

### II. God's Clear Revelation

#### A. Behold God's Majesty! (cf. Rom 1:18-23; Acts 14:15-17)

The first thing David invites us to do is to behold the majesty of God revealed in creation – especially in the heavens. Theologians call God's revelation of Himself in creation \_\_\_\_\_ *revelation*.

Because God's revelation of Himself in creation is clear and universal, it leaves all men without excuse.

#### B. Behold God's Perfection!

God has revealed Himself not only in the heavens, not only in creation, but also in His Word in the course of human history. The repetition of God's covenant name emphasizes that David sings no longer of the *general revelation* of creation that was given to all nations but of the \_\_\_\_\_ *revelation* that God gave to His elect people.

Throughout these verses David praises the Law not as an abstract series of moral rules but as God's personal revelation of Himself and His covenant with his people. David sings of the law as the expression of God's merciful kindness to Israel – choosing Israel from among all the nations of the earth to be His people and to escape from the darkness of sin and ignorance that engulfed the world prior to the Incarnation of Christ.

- *Perfect, converting the soul –*
- *Sure, making wise the simple –*
- *Right, rejoicing the heart –*
- *Pure, enlightening the eyes –*
- *Clean, enduring forever –*
- *True and righteous altogether –*

Why does the Law possess these properties? Because it is the revelation of \_\_\_\_\_ Himself. As such it shares His character – a character most fully on display in our Lord Jesus Christ – the Living Word of God who took on human flesh and dwelt among us.

### C. Forgive Me & Empower Me

Considering the character of God's revelation both in creation and in His law is humbling. So David issues a twofold petition: forgive me and empower me!

David's words help us reckon with the \_\_\_\_\_ of God. God is Lord over all things. He is Lord over creation and Lord over salvation. We owe our physical life and continued existence to God; we owe our spiritual life and continued sanctification to God. So David cries out to God because he knows that he is utterly and completely dependent upon God's grace to walk in righteousness.

## III. Conclusion