

A Majestic God

Justin Worden – June 11, 2008
Tupos SM - Wednesday Night Live

- Psalm 8** = "10 LORD, our Lord, How majestic is Your name in all the earth, Who have displayed Your splendor above the heavens!
2From the mouth of infants and nursing babes You have established strength
Because of Your adversaries,
To make the enemy and the revengeful cease.
3When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers,
The moon and the stars, which You have ordained;
4What is man that You take thought of him,
And the son of man that You care for him?
5Yet You have made him a little lower than God,
And You crown him with glory and majesty!
6You make him to rule over the works of Your hands;
You have put all things under his feet,
7All sheep and oxen, And also the beasts of the field,
8The birds of the heavens and the fish of the sea, Whatever passes through
the paths of the seas.
9O LORD, our Lord, How majestic is Your name in all the earth! (NASB)

Opening video = "A Majestic God – Psalm 8" (Bluefish TV)

I. Follow-up Feelings?

a. Questions to follow video:

- i. How did this video make you feel?
- ii. What images struck you in particular? What do you remember?
- iii. What do you think was its main point?

II. Looking Into the Psalm

a. "Point" = wrapped up in the Scripture it used. This was a visual rendition of Psalm 8. Looking into it:

- i. Psalms 8:1-2
- ii. Author = David (Renaissance Man before the Renaissance... shepherd, singer, warrior, poet, king)
- iii. "Majestic" = having great dignity, grand, noble

b. What do you think?

- i. Why do you think he refers to "children & infants" praising God? (From high to low, nothing is insignificant to God... even the tiniest voice praise!)
- ii. What examples can you find that demonstrate how majestic God is? (heavens & creatures)
- iii. Psalm 8:3-9

- iv. What is David saying about humanity? Are we high or low? (High, He's mindful of us, cares for us)

c. God's creativity

- i. Psalm's about God & humanity, especially creativity:
 1. "the work of your fingers" (v.3)
 2. "you have set in place" (v.3)
 3. "you made him" (v.5)
 4. "the works of your hands" (v.6)
 5. "ordained" (v.2, & "crowned" (v.5)
- ii. Genesis 1:26 = "Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." (NASB)
 1. Do you see any resemblance to Ps. 8?

What does it mean to be made "in the image of God"? People have debated that forever and there are many different theories. One prominent theory holds that God made us *creative*, just as he is. At that point in Genesis, that's pretty much all we know about God—that he's a Creator. So it makes sense that, in verse 26 he decides to turn the reins over to humans, saying, "I've been creative; now it's your turn." (Bluefish TV, A Majestic God)

- iii. Genesis 2:19-20 = "So God formed from the dirt of the ground all the animals of the field and all the birds of the air. He brought them to the Man to see what he would name them. Whatever the Man called each living creature, that was its name. The Man named the cattle, named the birds of the air, named the wild animals..." (Message)

d. Man's creativity

- i. Adam got to name the living creatures in the world
- ii. Many other stories in the Bible show creativity, especially how Christ was our example...
- iii. What about John 8:1-11?
 1. Story of when the Pharisees bring the adulterous woman to Jesus to be stoned
 2. Jesus doesn't answer, writes in the sand?
 3. Wonder what He was writing?

There are many theories about this. We just don't know. Was he writing verses from the Old Testament Law? Was he writing the names of the accusers and listing their sins? Was he writing, "Do not judge, lest you be judged"? Or was he just drawing a picture or practicing math? (Bluefish TV, A Majestic God)

4. Regardless of what he wrote, how did His response show some creativity? (Found

- alternative from answering them the way they wanted – by trapping Him)
- iv. Other examples of Jesus handling things creatively:
 1. Jesus had Peter pull a fish out of the water with a coin in its mouth to pay taxes. (Matthew 17:24-27)
 2. He washed the disciples' feet as a way to show them he was their servant as opposed to simply telling them. (John 13:1-20)
 3. He creatively answered the Pharisees accusations when the disciples picked wheat on the Sabbath. (Matthew 12:1-8)

III. What About Me?

a. So What?

- i. Many people don't consider themselves creative because they are not artists, dancers, singers or writers. But we were all made in the image of a creative God. Somewhere inside of us is creativity, whether it comes out artistically or in creative solutions to problems we face.

b. Be Creative

- i. **During Small Group Time** = Discuss practical ways to be creative for God... used by Jesus (according to your God-created purpose)
- ii. We will ask: "Ho do you exercise your creativity?"

c. He's Indescribable

- i. Learn more about that at our Lock-In Camp!!

One day a prairie chicken found an egg and sat on it until it hatched. Unbeknownst to the prairie chicken, the egg was an eagle egg, abandoned for some reason. That's how an eagle came to be born into a family of prairie chickens. While the eagle is the greatest of all birds, soaring above the heights with grace and ease, the prairie chicken doesn't even know how to fly. In fact, prairie chickens are so lowly that they eat garbage. Predictably, the little eagle, being raised in a family of prairie chickens, thought he was a prairie chicken. He walked around, ate garbage, and clucked like a prairie chicken. One day he looked up to see a majestic bald eagle soar through the air, dipping and turning. When he asked his family what it was, they responded, "It's an eagle. But you could never be like that because you are just a prairie chicken." Then they returned to pecking the garbage. The eagle spent his whole life looking up at eagles, longing to join them among the clouds. It never once occurred to him to lift his wings and try to fly. The eagle died thinking he was just a prairie chicken. (Hot Illustrations 1.0, Born to Fly)

Related music = "How Majestic Is Your Name" (Michael W. Smith, 1981)
 Color code = blue (commentary/video), red (copyrighted quotes/story)
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Small Group Life Application Sheet

Wednesday, June 11, 2008



Lesson Objective: In preparation for our Lock-In Camp themed around God being so "indescribable", this lesson will give students more of an understanding and realization of how majestic God is.

Tonight's Text: Psalm 8:1-9

Personal Insights: Allow students to share personal experiences or insights related to God's majesty and how they see that in the world.

Discussion Questions:

1. What do you think David is trying to tell us in this psalm?
2. What does it mean to be made in the "image of God"?
3. How do you exercise your creativity? (**Leader:** *If the group feels comfortable with one another, and if there's time, you might want to go around the room and ask people directly about their creativity. Otherwise, let it be a question for personal pondering.*)

Prayer Time: Pray about how they can creativity take part in the work of New Hope and Tupos SM. Also, take time to pray for our Lock-In Camp this weekend.