

Sunday Night Message

October 11, 2015

Psalm 104 – A Psalm Exalting God As The Creator

Series – The Psalms

Text – Psalm 104

Introduction

This psalm uses very creative language to illustrate God's work of creating the Earth and the Heavens. Although this psalm's purpose is more to praise the Creator than to give a technical description of the Creation process, it does follow fairly closely with the account in Genesis 1.

The writer of the psalm certainly had Genesis 1 in mind when he wrote, even though he did not follow all six days of creation in detail, nor did he include the creation of man and woman (see vv. 14, 23). He began with light (v. 2; Gen. 1:1-5) and continued with the separation of the upper and lower waters (vv. 2-4; Gen. 1:6-8) and the separation of land and water (vv. 5-9; Gen. 1:9-10). The provision of vegetation is mentioned (vv. 14-17; Gen. 1:11-13), as well as the placing of the sun and moon (vv. 19-23; Gen. 1:14-19), and the creation of land and sea creatures (vv. 24-25; Gen. 1:20-28).¹

Read all of Genesis 1

The Apostle Paul may have had this psalm in mind when he spoke to the Athenians in Acts 17:22 – 34.

Romans 1:19 – 21 tell us that the Creation is one of the ways that we can know that God exists:

"Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them. For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse: Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened."

(Romans 1:19-21)

David wrote in Psalm 19:1:

¹ Wiersbe, W. W. (2004). *Be exultant* (1st ed., p. 52). Colorado Springs, CO: Cook Communications Ministries.

"The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork." (Psalm 19:1)

I God's Creation vs. 1 - 10

In these verses, the psalmist alludes to the creation of the heavens, light, the land, and the seas. He also mentions the creation of angels.

Notice the reference to light in v. 2:

"This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all." (1 John 1:5)

It is believed by some that Adam and Eve were clothed in light in the Garden of Eden prior to their plunge into sin.

Fallen man, however, tends to gravitate towards darkness:

"And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil." (John 3:19)

Followers of Jesus, however, have the light of God's Spirit within them and the light of God's Word without to guide them:

"Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life." (John 8:12)

Notice in vs. 6 - 10, the psalmist speaks of the extent and limitations of the waters.

II God's Provision (vs. 11 - 18)

A Of Food (11 - 15; 25 - 30)

Notice - wine, oil, and bread are mentioned. These were basic necessities for life, but they are also symbolic of the Blood, the Spirit, and the Word of God.

B Of Shelter (16 - 18)

III God's Precision - Times and Seasons (vs. 19 - 23)

III The Psalmist's Decision - To Praise the Lord (v. 24; 31 - 35)

Because of the psalmist's awe of God's Creation, He made the decision to forever praise the Lord:

"I will sing unto the LORD as long as I live: I will sing praise to my God while I have my being." (Psalm 104:33)

The psalmist decided to kiss the hand that feeds him rather than to bite it.