

## God's Revelation to Humanity

Psalm 19: 7-14

It is evident as you read this psalm that David was contemplating the greatness of our God. We don't know when this particular psalm was written, but I can imagine David gazing up into the heavens on a clear night beholding the beauty of God's creation. David had been chosen of the Lord and enjoyed fellowship with Him, and he also knew that such fellowship wasn't reserved for him alone. God sought various ways to reveal Himself to humanity. The wonder of creation itself declares the mighty power and grace of God, [V.1](#). This is often referred to as general revelation. Paul spoke of this in his letter to the Romans. [Rom.1:20](#) – *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.*

Like Paul, David saw God through creation, and yet the Lord revealed Himself through His Word as well. David rejoiced that his knowledge and relationship with the Lord was not limited to general revelation through creation. He had experienced specific revelation through the written Word. As one recognizes God through general revelation, He begins to speak through His Word, superintended by the Holy Spirit. It is that revelation through the Word that I want to consider tonight. Let's examine the [divine attributes](#) of the Word revealed in this psalm as we think on: [God's Revelation to Humanity](#).

**I. Testimonies in the Word** (7-10) – Here David reflects on the great testimonies and precepts within the Word. We discover:

**A. They Chasten** (7) – *The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple.* David refers to the miraculous way God's Word deals with the hearts of men. It has the ability to convert the soul. This has the idea of "*bringing back; to return.*" The testimonies of the Word are sure, bringing wisdom to those in need.

- I am thankful that the Word of God convicts and chastens those who are in sin. We know, according to the Word, that we are all born in sin and separated from God. We don't possess the wisdom or desire to seek God on our own. We are unable to redeem ourselves from sin. As we read the Word, with the Spirit working within, we are brought back to God, literally returned to Him from the separation of sin. The Word has the power to chasten, convict, and bring salvation. In fact, one cannot be saved apart from hearing and embracing the Word. We know salvation is obtained by grace through faith. [Rom.10:17](#) – *So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.*

**B. They Console** (8) – *The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes.* David knew there was also comfort in the Word, consoling the grieved and hurting. In times of adversity and pain, he found joy in the Word. In times of discouragement and doubt, he found direction for his way. When David needed encouragement, he found it in the Word. When he needed guidance and counsel, he found it in the Word. David had come to realize the Word brought great consolation in his times of need and distress!

- I too have found this great treasure in the Word, finding comfort and guidance for my weary soul. How often have we found ourselves in despair, almost ready to give up, and the Spirit directed our heart to the very passage we needed for consolation? *Jer.15:16 – Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart: for I am called by thy name, O LORD God of hosts.*

**C. They Cleanse** (9) – *The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.* David rejoiced for the cleansing effect of the Scriptures. As he studied its precepts, he saw himself in the mirror of the Word. He recognized the areas within his life that needed addressed and found guidance through the wisdom of God's Word. He knew the pattern laid out in Scripture would guide him in the right way, leading him in the path of righteousness.

- The Word of God is amazing! It is the living Word, able to discern our thoughts and examine our lives. Those who earnestly seek the Word are never left unchanged. It has the power to transform us from unconcerned arrogance before God to submissive servants who are able to be used of Him. Surely all the saved can relate to the cleansing power of the Word. We have experienced it in our own lives and in the lives of others. When one takes the time to study and apply the Word of God, it will not leave us as we were. It will work mightily in our lives, transforming us to the image of Christ our Lord.

**D. They Compel** (10) – *More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb.* David also realized the great treasure found in the Word. He knew it was of more value to mankind than the purest of gold. It was much sweeter than the finest honey produced. Such a treasure could not be left unattended. The Word had laid hold of David's heart and he was compelled to mine its riches continually. Each day brought fresh insight, renewed strength, and eternal hope. He couldn't imagine life without the Word.

- American society is blessed beyond measure with access to the Word. Most homes have at least one copy of the Bible. Many areas are filled with churches that preach the truth. We have internet, TV, and radio broadcasts that share the Word. Sadly many do not realize the great treasure we have in the Word. I pray we too will be compelled to mine its great riches! *Proverbs*

3:13-15 – Happy *is* the man *that* findeth wisdom, and the man *that* getteth understanding. <sup>[14]</sup> For the merchandise of it *is* better than the merchandise of silver, and the gain thereof than fine gold. <sup>[15]</sup> She *is* more precious than rubies: and all the things thou canst desire are not to be compared unto her.

**II. Transformation through the Word** (11-14) – After contemplating the revelation of God through nature and the vast testimonies within the Word, David considered the transformation brought through the Word. Consider:

**A. The Instruction** (11) – *Moreover by them is thy servant warned: and in keeping of them there is great reward.* Regardless of the season in life in which David penned these words, he had come to trust and value the instruction received through the Word. It had served him faithfully as a trustworthy guide as he walked through life. God has used His Word to shield David from harm and hedge him against sin. There was great reward in the Word's instruction and insight.

- Our human nature doesn't like to be confronted or chastened for wrong, but deep down we know it is beneficial. I am truly thankful for the instruction of the Word. Seeking to understand and apply the truths of the Word will guide our steps and keep us from sin and harm. Wise counsel is desirable, but nothing compares to the instruction of the Word. It reads us as we read it! [Heb.4:12](#) – *For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.*

**B. The Inspection** (12) – *Who can understand his errors? cleanse thou me from secret faults.* David was a man after God's heart and yet he knew he was prone to sin and failure. He couldn't imagine life apart from the Word. Although it wasn't pleasant at times, David understood the value of the Word. It would reveal errors that he had not considered. It would disclose the secret sins within his heart and reveal the way of cleansing for them. As he looked to the Word, David understood it served as a mirror gazing into his heart. He rejoiced for the careful inspection of the Word.

- If we approach the Word with a sincere and open heart, we might as well expect it to examine our lives. When we can't see our failures due to the hardness of our hearts, the Word will reveal the truth about our condition. It will examine and reveal the areas of weakness and sin. It will confront the error of our ways and provide godly counsel in dealing with those needs. [Heb.4:12](#) – *For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.*

**C. The Intervention** (13) – *Keep back thy servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me: then shall I be upright, and I shall be innocent from the great transgression.* David knew he couldn't rely upon himself to maintain a right relationship with the Lord. In his own strength he would surely fall, but through the help of the Lord and the guidance of the Word, he could walk upright before the Lord. David actually feared becoming presumptuous, literally arrogant and proud. He never wanted to get to a place where he felt as if he could never fall. He realized his continued dependence upon the Lord.

- Typically a fall within a believer's life coincides with a lack of study and meditation on the Word. When we reach the place where we feel as if we can make it alone, apart from godly counsel and wisdom, we are heading for a fall. We need to regularly and consistently study the Word to keep our hearts and minds in tune with the Lord. He alone can keep us from falling. I pray we never get to the place where we feel as if we have arrived and no longer need His counsel.

**D. The Inspiration** (14) – *Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer.* Clearly David desired to honor the Lord with the life he lived. He wanted his thoughts, words, and deeds to bring glory to the Lord rather than being a reproach to His good name. He recognized the Lord as his strength and redeemer. Such recognition inspired David to seek a life of righteousness. He feared failure and longed for consistent fellowship with the Lord.

- Can we honestly say that is our desire as well? Do we seek to honor the Lord with every word, thought, and deed? Is He the desire of our hearts? He alone provided for our redemption. He gave His life on the cross, bearing our sin, and redeemed us to God. Surely He is worthy of our love and devotion. If we will keep Christ as the focus and desire of our hearts, that will inspire us to seek righteousness in life!

**Conclusion:** I am thankful for the revelation of God to humanity. He certainly wasn't obligated to reveal Himself to me or make a way for my salvation. I had done nothing to deserve such grace, but He lovingly offered it to me. I need the Word of God daily if I am to live a life that honors the Lord and follow His will for my life. We all do! We cannot live a life that pleases the Lord if we ignore His Word and refuse to abide by its precepts.

If you need strength and wisdom in life, seek the Lord and His counsel. Maybe you need to come this evening and seek particular counsel in prayer. Maybe you have yet to be saved, but God has dealt with your heart and is revealing Himself to you. If He is speaking to you in any way, I would urge you to respond to His calling! Don't put it off; tomorrow may be too late.