



(Psalms 29:1-11) <<A Psalm of David.>>

Give unto the LORD, O ye mighty, give unto the LORD glory and strength. Give unto the LORD the glory due unto his name; worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness. The voice of the LORD is upon the waters: the God of glory thundereth: the LORD is upon many waters. The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is full of majesty. The voice of the LORD breaketh the cedars; yea, the LORD breaketh the cedars of Lebanon. He maketh them also to skip like a calf; Lebanon and Sirion like a young unicorn. The voice of the LORD divideth the flames of fire. The voice of the LORD shaketh the wilderness; the LORD shaketh the wilderness of Kadesh. The voice of the LORD maketh the hinds to calve, and discovereth the forests: and in his temple doth every one speak of his glory. The LORD sitteth upon the flood; yea, the LORD sitteth King for ever. The LORD will give strength unto his people; the LORD will bless his people with peace. (KJV)

Seven times the Psalm speaks of “the voice of the Lord.” “The voice of the Lord,” however, is plainly referring to thunder. The Psalmist hears the voice of his God in the thunder and lightning of a mighty storm.

- **Exodus 9:28**, where Pharaoh says, “Enough of God’s thunder and hail,” what is translated “God’s thunder” literally says, “Voices of God.” “No more Voices of God!” Pharaoh says.

(Exodus 9:27-29) And Pharaoh sent, and called for Moses and Aaron, and said unto them, I have sinned this time: the LORD is righteous, and I and my people are wicked. Intreat the LORD (for it is enough) that there be no more mighty thunderings and hail; and I will let you go, and ye shall stay no longer. And Moses said unto him, As soon as I am gone out of the city, I will spread abroad my hands unto the LORD; and the thunder shall cease, neither shall there be any more hail; that thou mayest know how that the earth is the LORD'S. (KJV)

- **Job 37:3-4** speaks of how God lets loose his lightning across the earth, and that, “after it, his voice roars, he thunders with his majestic voice.”
(Job 37:3-4) He directeth it under the whole heaven, and his lightning unto the ends of the earth. After it a voice roareth: he thundereth with the voice of his excellency; and he will not stay them when his voice is heard. (KJV)

- **Job 40:9**, "Hast thou an arm like God? or canst thou thunder with a voice like him?"
(Job 40:9) Hast thou an arm like God? or canst thou thunder with a voice like him? (KJV)

- **John 12**, "that it thundered" when Christ presents Himself during the Triumphal entry the Father speaks from Heaven with an audible voice:
(John 12:29) The people therefore, that stood by, and heard it, said that it thundered: others said, An angel spake to him.

1. **Worship of God in Heaven. vv. 1-2**

A. **Majestic**

God's majesty is sometimes deemphasized with modern religions who emphasize His closeness. The danger of only viewing God as a friend is forgetting the majesty of God and making Him too much like ourselves. This makes God too small to solve our problems and unworthy of time spent in adoration and praise. Our faith weakens and our worship becomes lifeless. Then we lose appreciation for how much we need Jesus Christ who was is the mediator between God and mankind.

Spurgeon:

"if he should speak in heaven the angels would hush their hallelujahs, and suspend the notes of their golden harps, to hear him; and when he speaks on earth, it is at all times becoming in all his creatures to hush their rebellious passions, and make the voice of their reason be silent. When God speaks, either from the pulpit or from his Word, I hold it to be my duty to keep silence. Even while we sing the glories of our God, our soul stands trembling; but when he speaks forth his own glories, who is he that dares to reply? Who is he that shall lift up his voice against the majesty of heaven? There is something so majestic in the voice of God, that when he speaks, it commands silence everywhere, and bids men hear."

B. **Powerful**

Like man's voice, has its various tones and degrees of loudness; but it is full of majesty, constantly so—whatever *tone* He uses, it is always full of majesty.

- **Harsh Voice:**

Sometimes God speaks to man with a harsh voice, threatening him for sin; and then there is majesty in that harshness. When man is angry with his fellows, and he speaks harshly and severely, there is little majesty in that; but when the just God is angry with sinful mortals, and he says, "I will by no means spare the guilty;" "I, the Lord, am a jealous God;" when he declares himself to be exceedingly wroth, and asks who can stand before the fury of his countenance—when the rocks are cast down by him—there is a majesty in that terrific voice of his.

- **Teacher's Voice:**

Sometimes it is a gentle didactic voice, teaching us what he would have us learn. And then how full of majesty it is! He explains, he expounds, he declares: he tells us what we are to believe; and what a majesty there is in his voice then! Men may explain God's Word, and have no majesty in what they say; but when God teaches what his people are to hold to be truth, what majesty there is in it! So much majesty, that if any man take away from the words that are written in this Book, God shall take away his name out of the book of life and out of the holy city—so much majesty, that to seek to mend the Bible is a proof of a blasphemous heart, that to seek to alter one word of Scripture is a proof of alienation from the God of Israel.

- **Comforting Voice:**

A sweet consoling voice. And oh! ye mourners that have ever heard God's comforting voice, is not that full of majesty! There is nothing of the mere trifling that sometimes we employ to comfort poor sick souls. Mothers will often talk to those who are sick in some gentle strain; but somehow it appears to be affected, and is, therefore, not full of majesty; but when God speaks to comfort, he uses his majestic words. "The mountains shall depart, and the hills be removed; but my kindness shall not depart from thee, neither shall the covenant of my peace be removed, saith the Lord that hath mercy on thee."

2. Word of God on Earth

A. Breaks v. 5

Like toothpicks

Bringing low the lofty, proud things of the world.

How many stars have we seen leave this world in a shameful, confusing and unheroic death! (Michael Jackson)

unicorn = young bull or buffalo

B. Moving v. 6

C. Dividing v. 7

- Sin from Sinner
- Darkness from Light
- Men from Troubles
- There is nothing that it cannot divide:

Heb 4:12

For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged 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.

Lightning cuts through the dismal sky from the clouds.

D. Awakens v. 8 (arousing of godless places)

Ge 1:3 ¶ **And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.**

Ge 1:6 ¶ **And God said, Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters,** and let it divide the waters from the waters.

Ge 1:9 ¶ **And God said, Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together unto one place,** and let the dry land appear: and it was so.

Ge 1:11 **And God said, Let the earth bring forth grass,** the herb yielding seed, and the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind, whose seed is in itself, upon the earth: and it was so.

Ge 1:14 ¶ **And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years:**

Ge 1:20 ¶ **And God said, Let the waters bring forth abundantly the moving creature that hath life, and fowl that may fly above the earth in the open firmament of heaven.**

Ge 1:24 ¶ **And God said, Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind, cattle, and creeping thing, and beast of the earth after his kind: and it was so.**

(go to a wilderness and speak out, address it; it will not listen to you, but it will listen to the voice of the Lord)

Kadesh:

was re-interpreted to also refer to the place in the southern Arabian desert in the Negeb on the way from Egypt to Canaan where the Israelites encamped. Thus it elicited a memory of God's saving power as it described his potentially destructive power in the storm.

It is known that deer have a laborious time giving birth. God in His mercy moves the mother through the delivery of her fawn in a caring and climactic way so that her turmoil is over!

E. Discovers v. 9

"The voice of the Lord maketh the hinds to calve." By this I understand what the ancients believed—that so affrighted were the hinds by the noise of the thunder, that the period of calving was often hastened on, and frequently prematurely. It is just so with God's voice. If a man has in him a desire towards Christ, the voice of God makes him bring forth that desire, to the joy and rejoicing of his soul. And very frequently, when a man has a bad design towards God, God has only to speak, and his design becomes abortive.

Like an overgrown forest, he exposes our self-centeredness, ungodly sensuality, arrogance, untamed desires.

3. Will of God in our Hearts

A. To give strength to His people

Christ calming the sea storm = God, voice = God, God is just as powerful in grace as He is in judgment.

(Mark 4:36-41) And when they had sent away the multitude, they took him even as he was in the ship. And there were also with him other little ships. And there arose a great storm of wind, and the waves beat into the ship, so that it was now full. And he was in the hinder part of the ship, asleep on a pillow: and they awake him, and say unto him, Master, carest thou not that we perish? And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm. And he said unto them, Why are ye so fearful? how is it that ye have no faith? And they feared exceedingly, and said one to another, What manner of man is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him? (KJV)

B. To give comfort to His people—He is powerful in peace.

Shalom

This hymn uses repetition to make its point. “Yahweh,” “voice,” and “glory” are repeated in staccato and drumlike fashion to produce the effect of climbing a staircase and repeating with each ascent or singing the notes of the scale ever louder. It avoids monotony by its movement from heaven to earth to heaven again, by describing the path of the storm and by resolving the “uproar” of the storm into a rainbow of peace.

Conclusion:

- Did you hear God this morning?
 - Faith comes by hearing

Romans 10 17 So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.
 - *1Co 1:18 For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.*
 - *1Co 1:21 For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe.*
- Do you recognize God's incomparable power to create, judge, destroy and bless with His Word?
- Do you have an esteem for God's Word?
 - Preaching
 - Godly Music
 - Meditation
 - Holy Spirit