



December 4, 2016

Psalm 8 -

A Majestic God Cares About You

Pastor Gary Hamrick

In [Psalm 8](#), David focused on the majesty of God. He was overwhelmed by God's greatness, power, and glory! He referred to three marks of God's majesty, but then he shifted to a question that amazed him most - in light of God's greatness, how was it that this majestic God cared so much about him? Be encouraged today as Pastor Gary reminds us that God cares about us too!

Historical Background

1. David, who is credited with having written 73 psalms, wrote this psalm.
2. The Hebrew word gittith is a musical term, which basically means, winepress.
 - a. This term is also used to describe [Psalm 81](#) and [Psalm 84](#).
 - b. All three of these three psalms celebrate the victory of God.
 - c. These were songs that were sung while the Jews were treading out the grapes in the winepress.
 - d. Pastor Gary said these songs reminded him of a football end zone dance for God!
3. The Hebrew word for majestic is addiyr, which means, powerful, mighty, excellent, and glorious.
4. [Exodus 15:11](#) - *"Who among the gods is like you, O LORD? Who is like you - majestic in holiness, awesome in glory, working wonders?"*
5. [Psalm 96:6](#) - *"Splendor and majesty are before him; strength and glory are in his sanctuary."*

6. **Jude 25** - *“... to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore! Amen.”*

The Three Marks Of The Majesty Of God

The Magnificence Of God’s Name

7. In the Bible, there is a difference between LORD and Lord.
- LORD is the proper name of God.
 - Exodus 3:14** - *“I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: ‘I AM has sent me to you.’ ”*
 - The Hebrew word for God is Yahweh, which has been translated in English as Jehovah, and it’s used more than 6,500 times in the Bible!
 - Revelation 1:8** - *“ ‘I am the Alpha and the Omega,’ says the Lord God, ‘Who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty.’ ”*
 - Lord is a title for God.
 - The Hebrew word is Adonai, which means, lord or master.
8. **Exodus 20:7** - *“You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name.”*
9. **Psalms 30:4** - *“Sing to the LORD, you saints of his; praise his holy name.”*
10. **Psalms 34:3** - *“Glorify the LORD with me; let us exalt his name together.”*
11. **Psalms 29:2** - *“Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; worship the LORD in the splendor of his holiness.”*
12. Pastor Gary mentioned five of the more than 900 names and titles for God found in the Bible.
- El Shaddai - God Almighty
 - Genesis 17:1** - *“When Abraham was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to him and said, ‘I am God Almighty, walk before me and be blameless.’ ”*
 - This name for God communicates the might and strength of God, and the nurturing, loving, tenderness of our Father in heaven.
 - El Elyon - The Most High God
 - Psalms 57:2** - *“I cry out to God Most High, to God, who fulfills his purpose for me.”*

- c. El Olam – The Everlasting God
 - i. [Isaiah 40:28a](#) – *“Do you not know? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth.”*
- d. El Channun – The Gracious God
 - i. [Jonah 4:2c](#) – *“I knew that you are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abounding in love, a God who relents from sending calamity.”*
- e. El Rachum – The Merciful God
 - i. [Deuteronomy 4:31](#) – *“For the LORD your God is a merciful God; he will not abandon or destroy you or forget the covenant with your forefathers, which he confirmed to them by oath.”*

The Innocence Of Children

- 13. [Psalm 8:2](#) – *“From the lips of children and infants you have ordained praise because of your enemies, to silence the foe and the avenger.”*
- 14. Pastor Gary said: “Children are God’s creation. Every child is a blessing from God. Whether that life was ‘planned’ or not, that life is precious to God. And every life is precious to God from the ‘womb to the tomb,’ and must be protected. Every baby and every child is precious to the Lord. When a child comes into this world through the miracle of birth, [that child] testifies to the majesty of God. When a baby cries, [that baby] testifies to the majesty of God. When a child laughs, [that child] testifies to the majesty of God. What David is saying here is that even the innocent cries of a child sound like praise to the ears of God, [because their cry] drowns out all of the noise of the enemies of God.”
- 15. [Mark 10:15](#) – *“I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.”*
- 16. Pastor Gary said: “We need to take a lesson from little kids!”
- 17. [Matthew 18:1-4](#) – *“At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, ‘Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?’ He called a little child and had him stand among them. And he said: ‘I tell you the truth, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Therefore, whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.’ ”*
- 18. Child-like faith and humility are characteristics Christians should emulate.

19. **Matthew 21:15-16** - *“But when the chief priests and the teachers of the law saw the wonderful things he did and the children shouting in the temple area, ‘Hosanna to the Son of David,’ there were indignant. ‘Do you hear what these children are saying?’ they asked him. ‘Yes,’ replied Jesus, ‘have you never read, ‘From the lips of children and infants you have ordained praise?’ ”*

The Evidence Of Creation

20. **Psalm 8:3** - *“When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place...”*
21. **Jeremiah 32:17a** - *“Ah, Sovereign LORD, you have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and outstretched arm.”*
22. Pastor Gary said: “God is Creator. And, irrespective of what public schools teach in terms of a theory, and it is only that, I submit to you that an intelligent, open-minded examination of this universe, in all of its vastness and complexities and grandeur, will [lead] to one single conclusion, [and] that is only the result of one Divine Designer!”
23. “This most beautiful system of the sun, planets, and comets could only proceed from the counsel and dominion of an intelligent and powerful Being... This Being governs all things, not as the soul of the world, but as Lord over all; and on account of his dominion he is wont to be called Lord, God... Universal Ruler.” - Sir Isaac Newton ¹
24. **Psalm 19:1-2** - *“The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they display knowledge.”*
25. “Fun facts” about the universe!
- The moon is 240,000 miles from the earth, and it orbits the earth with clockwork precision.
 - The moon travels at 2,288 mph, and it completes its journey around the earth in approximately 30 days.
 - If the moon were just a few degrees off, the earth would be flooded with unrestrained tides.
 - The sun is 93 million miles from earth, and it is 400 times the size of the moon, and it is also 400 times farther away from the earth than the moon, which makes both appear to be about the same size in the sky.

¹ <http://www.icr.org/article/newton/>

- e. The surface temperature of the sun is 12,000 degrees, and if the sun were just a few degrees off, we would either freeze to death or burn to death!
 - f. After the sun, the closest star is 25 trillion miles away from the earth.
 - g. There are an estimated 100 billion stars in our galaxy alone.
 - h. The Hubble Space Telescope and other more sophisticated instrumentation have made it possible to recognize that there are more than 10 trillion galaxies, and each galaxy, if it has the same number of stars as The Milky Way, would include 100 billion stars per galaxy.
 - i. This means that there are more than 1,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000 stars in existence!
 - i. The mathematical word is quattuorvigintillion.
26. [Psalm 147:4](#) - “[God] determines the number of the stars and he calls them each by name.”

The Conclusion - What Is Man?

27. [Psalm 8:4](#) - “What is man that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him?”
28. Pastor Gary said: “For those of you who right now are going through something, I want you to hear [this] loudly and clearly - a majestic God cares about you. He cares about your life. He cares about your future. He cares about your marriage. He cares about [your] prodigal son or daughter. He cares about your mom and your dad. He cares about your health. He cares about everything you’re going through. A majestic God, the Creator of the universe, cares about you.”
29. [Nahum 1:7](#) - “The LORD is good, a refuge in times of trouble. He cares for those who trust in him...”
30. [Psalm 55:22](#) - “Cast your cares on the LORD and he will sustain you; he will never let the righteous fall.”
31. [1 Peter 5:6-7](#) - “Humble yourselves, therefore, under God’s mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.”

Discussion Questions

1. Review the introduction to the study guide with your group to provide the appropriate background.
2. Read [Psalm 8](#) to provide the foundation for this study.
3. Read and discuss [Exodus 15:11](#), [Psalm 96:6](#), and [Jude 25](#).
4. Provide an overview concerning the difference between LORD and Lord. (See #7 above)
5. Spend time talking about the five names for God that Pastor Gary shared in his message. (See #13 through #17)
6. Read and discuss Pastor Gary's remarks concerning children. (See #19 above)
7. Read and discuss Pastor Gary's remarks concerning creation. (See #26 above)
8. Provide an overview of the facts Pastor Gary shared concerning the moon, sun, and stars. (See #29 above)
9. Read and discuss Pastor Gary's remarks concerning the ways God cares for us. (See #32 above)
10. Close your time in prayer by praying the following Scriptures: [Nahum 1:7](#), [Psalm 55:22](#), and [1 Peter 5:6-7](#).

* Unless noted, all Scriptures quoted are from the New International Version (NIV 1984).