

— Psalm 8 —
The Psalms
What is Man?

- 1 O Lord, our Lord,
How excellent is Your name in all the earth,
Who have set Your glory above the heavens!
- 2 Out of the mouth of babes and nursing infants
You have ordained strength,
Because of Your enemies,
That You may silence the enemy and the avenger.
- 3 When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers,
The moon and the stars, which You have ordained,
- 4 What is man that You are mindful of him,
And the son of man that You visit him?
- 5 For You have made him a little lower than the angels,
And You have crowned him with glory and honor.
- 6 You have made him to have dominion over the works of Your
hands;
You have put all things under his feet,
- 7 All sheep and oxen—
Even the beasts of the field,
- 8 The birds of the air,
And the fish of the sea
That pass through the paths of the seas.
- 9 O Lord, our Lord,
How excellent is Your name in all the earth!

► God is _____ of everything. He is the supreme Lord of everything in existence, visible and invisible. He rules over heaven and earth from the highest heights of heaven. And yet, in his _____ and mercy, he created man to be his vice-regent, a co-_____ with Him on the earth.

1 Corinthians 1:27 - But God has chosen **the foolish things** of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has chosen **the weak things** of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty...

Matthew 21:15-16 - But when the chief priests and scribes saw the wonderful things that He did, and **the children crying out in the temple** and saying, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" they were indignant and said to Him, "Do You hear what these are saying?"
And Jesus said to them, "Yes. Have you never read,

'Out of the mouth of babes and nursing infants
You have **perfected praise**?'"

► Worship is our greatest _____ against all of our enemies and Jesus says here that not only is the worship of children important, it is _____.

Genesis 1:14 - 17 - Then God said, "Let there be lights in the firmament of the heavens to divide the day from the night; and let them be for **signs and seasons, and for days and years**; and let them be **for lights in the firmament of the heavens to give light on the earth**"; and it was so. Then God made two great lights: the greater light **to rule the day**, and the lesser light **to rule the night**. He made the stars also. God set them in the firmament of the heavens to give light on the earth, and to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness."

Job 38:4-7 - "Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth? Tell Me, if you have understanding. Who determined its measurements? Surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? To what were its foundations fastened? Or who laid its cornerstone, when **the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?**

1 Kings 8:27 - "But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Behold, **heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain you; how much less this house that I have built!**

► God is at the same time infinitely transcendent and imminent. He is _____ all and beyond all so that none can comprehend Him as He is. And yet he is intimately imminent- He fills all _____ and is at the same time present in everything.

Proverbs 6:6 - Go to the ant, O sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise.

► It is precisely because God had _____ Adam and Eve with glory and honor that he gave them the mandate to fill the earth, subdue it and have _____.

► Animals are not only productive _____, they are symbols that can teach us about God and man.

Genesis 3:5 - "For God knows that when you eat of the tree your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

► Because of the fall, rather than having dominion over the animals in such a way as to _____ them for his good purposes and learn from them, man begins to _____ the animals themselves.

Romans 1:22-23 - Claiming to be wise, they became fools, and **exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.**

Isaiah 42:5-9 - Thus says God the LORD, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread forth the earth and that which comes from it, who gives breath to the people on it, and spirit to those who walk on it: "I, the LORD, have called You in righteousness, and will hold Your hand; I will keep You and give You as a covenant to the people, as a light to the Gentiles, to **open blind eyes, to bring out prisoners from the prison, those who sit in darkness from the prison house.** I am the LORD, that is My name; and **My glory I will not give to another, nor My praise to carved images.** Behold, the former things have come to pass, and new things I declare; Before they spring forth I tell you of them."

► Psalm 8 ultimately explains two things: 1) the restoration of humanity's intended vocation as _____ and 2) the resurrection and _____ of the man, Jesus Christ, to the Father's right hand.

1 Corinthians 15:21-27 - For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. **For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death. For "God has put all things in subjection under his feet."** But when it says, "all things are put in subjection," it is plain that he is excepted who put all things in subjection under him."

1 Corinthians 9:9-10 - For it is written in the Law of Moses, "You shall not muzzle an ox when it treads out the grain." **Is it for oxen that God is concerned? Does he not certainly speak for our sake?** It was written for our sake, because the plowman should plow in hope and the thresher thresh in hope of sharing in the crop.

Genesis 1:22 - And God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and **let birds multiply on the earth.**"

Ecclesiastes 10:20 - Even in your thoughts, do not curse the king, nor in your bedroom curse the rich, **for a bird of the air will carry your voice, or some winged creature tell the matter.**

► If we put this all together, we see that psalm 8 is teaching us several things. The first is that because of Christ, man has been _____ to his proper place in God's wonderful world. The blindness, dumbness, and deafness that plagued us because of sin has been healed. We now can see, hear, and understand the glory and _____ that God has packed into His wonderful creation. We tend to think of the goodness of creation merely in aesthetic terms- the beauty of sunsets and exotic animals, or the grandness of the sky or grand canyon. But the world is packed with wonder and in-

struction which we can now see, hear, and read aright. More importantly, when we consider the _____ nature of the world we have further clarity of our calling and vocation as the church.

Hebrews 2:5-9 - For He has not put the world to come, of which we speak, in subjection to angels. But one testified in a certain place, saying:

"What is man that You are mindful of him,
Or the son of man that You take care of him?
You have made him a little lower than the angels;
You have crowned him with glory and honor,
And set him over the works of Your hands.
You have put all things in subjection under his feet."

For in that He put all in subjection under him, He left nothing that is not put under him. But now we do not yet see all things put under him. **But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone.**

THE CHURCHES TOP PRIOROTIES

1. No matter what the circumstances, we _____.
2. We boldly proclaim the _____.
3. We _____.
4. We carry our _____.