Good morning. Listen to this, Psalm 8:1: “Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!” You can hear the awe in David’s writing. You kind of get a picture of David out in a field, tending his sheep at night, gazing up into the night sky, overwhelmed at the majesty of God. Majesty? Yes, sovereignty, power, authority, and dignity. There is so much for us in Psalm 8. It’s written in a way that reflects the whole of Creation and of Man in the book of Genesis; it reveals man’s place under God’s authority. Psalm 8 is composed as a hymn of praise and is written almost the way that a worship service is structured; that is, it offers 1. Doxology, 2. Worship (verses 1 & 2), 3. Message (verses 3-8, “What is man?” that by God’s grace “You crown him,” and 4. The benediction (verse 8). This psalm offers the fullness of the authority of God, His majesty, and the place of man under that authority. It is, no doubt, written under the direction of the Holy Spirit.

This wonderful, proper view of the majesty of God begs the question, “Who am I?” David asks this question in Psalm 8 about himself. In view of creation, David is awestruck by the Lord’s concern for humanity. And he is awestruck that God gives man authority over creation, summing up this sentiment in four words: “You have made him.” Psalm 100:3 confirms this relationship: “Know that the Lord is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.” The all-powerful God of the universe created each of us and cares so much for us that He made us in His own image, only a little lower than Himself (“a little lower than the angels,” some translations say). It's as if David—in the midst of stargazing and admiring God’s handiwork—realizes that he, too, is God’s handiwork. Man, he seems to realize, is God’s masterpiece in all of creation. Family, if we view God in His majesty correctly and God’s care for man correctly, our hearts can’t help but turn to the beauty of the Gospel—that God loves us so much that He sent a Savior. Hebrews 2:6-11 reflects the full weight of Psalm 8:

6 But there is a place where someone has testified:

“What is mankind that you are mindful of them,

a son of man that you care for him?

7 You made them a little lower than the angels;

you crowned them with glory and honor

8 and put everything under their feet.”

In putting everything under them, God left nothing that is not subject to them. Yet at present we do not see everything subject to them. 9 But we do see Jesus, who was made lower than the angels for a little while, now crowned with glory and honor because he suffered death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

10 In bringing many sons and daughters to glory, it was fitting that God, for whom and through whom everything exists, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through what he suffered. 11 Both the one who makes people holy and those who are made holy are of the same family. So, Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters.

Jesus became a human and died to set us free from the bondage of sin and death.

Family, God’s majesty is His greatness and dignity and sovereignty. Charles Swindell said, “God has no rival. He is subject to no other power, and He reigns supreme.” God’s power and supremacy are what David celebrates as he writes Psalm 8. And celebration of God’s power and supremacy are what our lives as Christians should reflect. We must be awakened to the truth of His Majesty to gain and maintain a right view of God and a right view of ourselves. John Piper has written,

If you don’t see the greatness of God, then all the things money can buy become very exciting. If you can’t see the sun, you will be impressed with a streetlight. If you’ve never felt thunder and lightning, you be impressed with fireworks, and if you turn your back on the greatness and majesty of God, you’ll fall in love with a world of shadows and short-lived pleasures.

Church! Allow your heart to be overwhelmed by the reality of His majesty. Let your heart awaken to the majesty of God. David’s Psalm 8 shows us our need for a Savior and confirms the grace of our God who has sent us one (Philippians 2:5-11\*). The mention of Jesus’ name should

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\* Philippians 2:5-11

5 In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

6 Who, being in very nature God,

did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;

7 rather, he made himself nothing

by taking the very nature of a servant,

being made in human likeness.

8 And being found in appearance as a man,

he humbled himself

by becoming obedient to death—

even death on a cross!

9 Therefore God exalted him to the highest place

and gave him the name that is above every name,

10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,

in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

11 and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord,

to the glory of God the Father.

cause our hearts to soar in worship. His name is majesty in all the Earth. Look again at Psalm 8:4: “what is mankind that you are mindful of them, human beings that you care for them?” God thinks of you! He has never wept over stars, but He has wept over the suffering and the sins of man. Nowhere do we read that God visited constellations. But He has often met you right where you are. Whatever state in which we find ourselves, God is concerned about us. When Adam fell, God immediately positioned the salvation agenda. He remained concerned for the children of Israel through the Exodus. When we fall short of His expectations for us, God is concerned for us. He provides propitiation in Christ for us to come to repentance. His majesty evokes intimacy. He cares for each of us.

But, Church! God’s glory and majesty should be of concern to us. He is worthy of our honor and faithfulness. His greatness calls forth worship, surrender, and obedience. You are not forgotten. Let’s not forget Him! We must be awake to the truth of His majesty, the perfection of His attributes and the mightiness of His deeds. Each of us must take time to consider God’s majesty and then meditate on the truth that you are made in His image and that He loves you, supports, you, defends you. Consider that Christ restored what Adam lost. Stand in awe of His grace. Don’t be afraid or ashamed to lift your hands in worship of Him. He is worthy, and you are always on His mind!

Passages in support of this message:

Psalm 93

1 The Lord reigns, he is robed in majesty;

the Lord is robed in majesty and armed with strength;

indeed, the world is established, firm and secure.

2 Your throne was established long ago;

you are from all eternity.

Psalm 8

1 Lord, our Lord,

how majestic is your name in all the earth!

You have set your glory

in the heavens.

2 Through the praise of children and infants

you have established a stronghold against your enemies,

to silence the foe and the avenger.

3 When I consider your heavens,

the work of your fingers,

the moon and the stars,

which you have set in place,

4 what is mankind that you are mindful of them,

human beings that you care for them?

5 You have made them a little lower than the angels[e]

and crowned them with glory and honor.

6 You made them rulers over the works of your hands;

you put everything under their[g] feet:

7 all flocks and herds,

and the animals of the wild,

8 the birds in the sky,

and the fish in the sea,

all that swim the paths of the seas.

9 Lord, our Lord,

how majestic is your name in all the earth!