

Death of a Champion Psalm 8

by Pastor Roy Hogan

Scholars believe this Psalm of David refers to the time in his life when, by the help of God, he defeated the giant, Goliath. It is a victory that has been celebrated through the ages. Most of the children in Sunday School know of the little boy who took down the great giant. That little boy, David, did not stand in fear of Goliath as did his older brothers and other men of the Israeli army. It seems David sized up Goliath and decided he was too big to miss. So, he placed a stone in his sling and, by the help of God, down came the giant. I do not believe the account of David and Goliath is figurative, but that it is real. It happened just as the Bible said it happened.

This Psalm 8 gives glory to God for the victory over the enemy of Israel. To God be the glory for all he has done in giving all his children manifold victories.

8:1

O LORD our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth! who hast set thy glory above the heavens.

God is supreme and above all. There is none like him. There is a glimpse of prophesy in this verse. His name is not yet above all. There are millions of Moslems who place the name Allah above the name Jehovah God. There are millions of Buddhists who worship the name Buddha. The millions of Hindu people worship many gods. Of all the names of religious beings adored by the populace in this age, the name Jehovah God is adored by few.

However, this will one day change. Things will be different. There will not be one mention of Allah or Buddha or the Pope. The true and living God will reign supreme. Buddha will fall as did Goliath. Allah will fall as did Goliath. We often hear the term “the last man standing.” Jehovah will be on the throne and reign over all creation. We are not there now, but blessed be the time when that day comes.

8:2

Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings hast thou ordained strength because of thine enemies, that thou mightest still the enemy and the avenger.

God is big. God is so big that he only needs a small weapon. Men count on mighty armies with tanks, missiles, planes and bombs. The army of Israel that melted before Goliath was mighty. Likely, the army of Israel outnumbered the army of the Philistines. Yet, it was a lad god used to secure victory- *out of the mouth of babes and sucklings*.

Pharaoh held the people of Israel in a labor camp for 400 years. The people were slaves to the Egyptians. How did God set them free? Did he used a squadron of bomber planes? Did God use an army of 10,000 foot-soldiers? No, he did not. One day a babe cried out. The babe was a suckling. The baby was three years old. The baby was floating on the pond in a bulrush basket. That baby was Moses- *out of the mouth of babes and sucklings*.

Let man keep his guns, missiles, and bombs. A lad with *ordained strength* sent from God is all it takes to conquer. I'd love to have some ordained strength from the Almighty.

8:3

When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained;

I imagine the countless hours the shepherd boy David spent gazing into God's heaven at night. I remember the first time, as a small lad, that I was able to pinpoint and identify the big dipper. I thought I had arrived. David slept countless nights in the pasture beneath the stars. He certainly knew much about *thy heavens, the moon and the stars*.

The **Sun** is 864,400 miles (1,391,000 kilometers) across. This is about 109 times the diameter of **Earth**. The **Sun** weighs about 333,000 times as much as **Earth**. It is so large that about 1,300,000

planet Earths can fit inside of it. The earth might be considered a speck compared to the sun. What we see in the heavens when we gaze at night is beyond awesome and beyond amazing. The universe, as man knows it through his study of space, contains, by man's estimate, 30 billion-trillion stars. Earth is only a speck. No wonder David described what he saw as *the work of thy fingers*.

I am amazed at what man has done with the many inventions and programs God has allowed him to accomplish. Man has walked on the moon. That, to me, is an inconceivable accomplish. It took decades of time, millions of man-hours of resources, and billions of dollars to set foot on the moon.

8:4-5

What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou visitest him? 5 For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honour.

I have asked the question more than once: God had a sinless, perfect earth in order in the beginning, so, why did he even think of adding man to his creation? The tree would not have turned on him. The fowls of the air would not have rebelled against him. It can only be that God created an intelligent being called man in his image in order that he may have some life that would honor, worship, and bring glory to him. What do you think?

David and I think alike on this one point- why bother with mankind? *What is man, that thou art mindful of him?* The halls of heaven are filled with angels, seraphim, and cherubim. Why bring man on the scene? We note that David provided us no answer to this question. I believe that there possibly is no answer to this question. Yet, the question gets more complicated and intriguing. Why would God visit *the son of man*? *The son of man* refers to the son of Adam. God did not place man on planet earth, then turn his back on him, forget him, and walk away. God came down and strolled with Adam in the Garden of Eden! Many times, in the Old Testament, God visited man. It was God who was the fourth man in the fiery furnace. It was God in the burning bush speaking to Moses.

What is man's position with God? God made man a *little lower than the angels*. Charles Darwin described man as "the most efficient animal to ever emerge on earth." Man is not an animal, though some act as animals or below animals. Man is not dirt. Man is not vegetation. God made man just a notch below angels. This is wonderous. When Jesus came to the earth, he, too, was made lower than the angels for he became man in order to save man.

When World War II broke out, a teenage girl went to her father asked to join the military services. He father was King George VI. She was granted permission to join a service group. She had a commanding officer who granted her no favor. She was, in fact, badgered and stretched to her limited with tasks he her superior. Then, one day, word came that her father, King George VI, had died. In an instant, the badgered teenager was elevated to Queen of England.

Someday soon, I will take my position on high. The teenage daughter of the king was already queen by birth and blood. Likewise, you and I are by birth and blood kings and priest. Soon, we will get the call. It will be promotion day soon.

8:6-8

Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of thy hands; thou hast put all things under his feet: 7 All sheep and oxen, yea, and the beasts of the field; {8} The fowl of the air, and the fish of the sea, and whatsoever passeth through the paths of the seas.

God gave Adam the command to tend the earth. It was repeated to Noah after the flood. Man has dominion over the earth. Good news- there will not be an invasion of the earth by aliens.

8:9

O LORD our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth!

This 8th Psalm ends where it began.