



12/11/25

Today's psalm is a psalm of praise to the Lord. David wrote it, but I can picture Noah and his family singing very similar praises to the Lord while being carried safely in the ark. I can also imagine the disciples singing these praises to the Lord both times they saw Jesus calm the sea simply by saying, "Peace, be still." What do you imagine as you read this psalm of praise?

*Merry Blessings,
Jonna*

Psalms 29 ~

Enduring Word commentary pointed out that the phrase, "The voice of the LORD" is used 7 times in this psalm, speaking of His power and glory. I think of Jesus, walking on the water, and Peter, saying "Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You." Then "the voice of the LORD" said, "Come." O Lord, I can read the voice of the LORD and see Your power and glory and love every time I open Your word. And I look forward to the day that I get to hear Your voice speak it out loud!

Vs. 1-2 ~ "Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength. Ascribe to the LORD the glory due His name; worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness."

In these 2 verses, I see the command, "Ascribe to the LORD" 3 times. It simply means... Give to the LORD. What does He want me to give?

David says, "Give to the LORD, O heavenly beings..." First, he addresses the "heavenly beings" which can also be translated "you mighty ones." Whether this is speaking of angels or powerful warriors, their power is no match for God. The only adequate response for any being is to humble oneself and bow before the Lord.

No matter who I am, "Give to the LORD glory and strength." How do I give Him glory and strength? Set my gaze on His glory... His honor... and His power. See His worth... worship will soon follow as the reasonable response. I won't have to muster worship. It will come when I see

how honorable and worthy He is.

"Give to the LORD the glory due His name." His name is more than just a name. It represents His character and importance. What is His name? YAHWEH. Every time I see the word LORD in all caps, it represents His personal name (spoken 17 times in this psalm), one that the Jews considered so holy and sacred that they wouldn't write out all the letters. They wrote YHWH. God shared His personal name with us because He is personally involved in our lives. He doesn't want me to know of Him on a formal basis. He wants me to know Him personally... like when a child is the child of the president. The child doesn't have to call the president, "Mr. President." He calls him, "Dad." The president's wife doesn't call her husband "Mr. President." She calls him by his personal name.

If I'm to give Him the glory due His name, how much glory is due to the LORD? He is Creator and Sustainer. He has more power than any other person or angel. He deserves more glory than anyone. He certainly deserves more glory than me.

So... don't just set my gaze on Him but worship Him "in the splendor of holiness." The word splendor is also translated "beauty." Worship Him, bow down before Him in the beauty of holiness. His holiness, His set apartness, is beautiful. No one is holy like He is holy.

What is His holiness? It is elusive to me. I can't fully grasp it, because no one is holy like my God. Here are 3 quotes from people more educated and wise than me about His holiness...

"God's holiness is His infinite value as the absolutely unique, morally perfect, permanent person that He is and who by grace made Himself accessible — His infinite value as the absolutely unique, morally perfect, permanent person that He is." ~ John Piper

"God's holiness means He is separate from sin. But holiness in God also means wholeness. God's holiness is His 'God-ness.' It is His being God in all that it means for Him to be God. To meet God in His holiness, therefore, is to be altogether overwhelmed by the discovery that He is God, and not man." ~ Sinclair B. Ferguson

"Holiness is the perfection of all [God's] other attributes. His power is holy power, His mercy is holy mercy, His wisdom is holy wisdom. It is His holiness more than any other attribute that makes Him worthy of our praise." ~ Jerry Bridges

No one is holy like He is, but the beautiful thing is that He wants me to share in His holiness... to experience the peace and joy of His holiness and to be changed by it. To gaze on the beauty of His holiness is not just to worship Him for it, but to be changed by it... simply for being near Him.

Vs. 3-9 ~ These verses speak 7 times about "the voice of the LORD" and how extremely powerful it is.

Vs. 3 ~ "The voice of the LORD is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the LORD, over many waters."

Just spend a little time in a raging river or feel the undercurrent of the ocean or its mighty waves and I will not forget the power its depths. God's voice is greater than all the waters of the earth. It was by His voice that "the fountains of the great deep burst forth" and the rains flooded the earth in Genesis 7. It was by His voice they stopped.

I can only imagine the sound of the thunder booming as Noah and his family were safely protected from its force by the voice of the LORD... by His power.

Vs. 4 ~ "The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is full of majesty."

Who else can speak and it is? Who else has the splendor of the Lord? Who else can hold the universe together by the word of His power?

Vs. 5-6 ~ "The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon... makes Lebanon to skip like a calf, and Sirion like a young wild ox."

The cedars of Lebanon were known for their massive size and strength. God's voice splits them like twigs. Lebanon and Sirion are names for Mt Hermon... a mountain. God can make them skip like a baby ox.

Vs. 7 ~ "The voice of the LORD flashes forth flames of fire."

His flames of fire represent His justice and judgment. God is not weak. His mercy is not meant to enable sin. He is patient. He is ready to forgive. But He IS the all powerful Judge. Let me never take His authority for granted.

Vs. 8 ~ "The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh."

"In the jungle, the mighty jungle, the lion sleeps tonight," but not when the voice of the LORD is booming forth His thunder and lightning on the wilderness. Then, the mighty lion is not so mighty. He is hunkering down and trembling by the force of the voice of the LORD.

Vs. 9 ~ "The voice of the LORD makes the deer give birth and strips the forests bare, and in His temple all cry, 'Glory!'"

The sound of His thunder puts the deer into labor. The forest cannot escape His power. But in His temple, where His presence dwells, all are safe... just like Noah was safe inside the ark while His voice thundered throughout the world.

Now, through Jesus, I am the temple of the Lord... with the Holy Spirit dwelling in me. No

matter how big the voice of the LORD thunders throughout this life... no matter how many storms pop up out of nowhere, I am safe in His presence. O my soul, let me not fear being shaken like the deer or split like the cedars or laid bare like the forest. Let me give YAHWEH the glory He deserves as I bow in worship, knowing that He "is my refuge and strength, an ever present help in trouble" (Psalm 46:1) because I know...

Vs. 10 ~ "The LORD sits enthroned over the flood; the LORD sits enthroned as King forever."

You are on Your throne. No power is too strong for You. You cannot be overthrown. You ARE King forever and ever. And You are my safety, my refuge, my peace. As I gaze on the beauty of Your holiness and the power and authority of Your voice, I don't have to be afraid of the flood or the thunder. You have complete control. "Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling" (Psalm 46:2-3). Let me not fear the storm. Let me be in awe of You. Let me fix my gaze on You, beholding Your glory and majesty and strength and the beauty of Your holiness.

Vs. 11 ~ "May the LORD give strength to His people! May the LORD bless His people with peace!"

Truly, if You aren't my strength, I have no strength. If You aren't my peace, I have no peace. But I can know that I can have peace and strength in You because of Your Word. The voice of the LORD has said, "My grace (the generosity of My love) is sufficient for (satisfies) you, for My POWER is made perfect in weakness" (2 Corinthians 12:9). And the voice of the LORD Himself has said, "The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace" (Numbers 6:24-26).

You ARE my up close and personal LORD. I will give You the glory due Your name. I will gaze upon Your beauty and majesty and splendor and honor and authority and power, and I will bow before You in humble worship. O Lord, may it be so.