

Psalms 104 - Review

In Psalm one-hundred-four, part 1, we learned that the subject/title of this Psalm is “***The King in His Coming Power and Glory***” and, it therefore, teaches us of our Heavenly Father’s power, and glory. However, this Psalm not only teaches us of our Heavenly Father’s power, and glory, in His ‘*Coming* Kingdom’, but also that which He has long had, and will continue to have forever. And so, the Psalmist began by teaching us that the Lord (YHVH) is clothed with honor, majesty and even light. And we went to several Scriptures that explained how magnificently beautiful our Heavenly Father’s outward appearance is. Just as gemstones are *radiantly* beautiful, so too is our Heavenly Father (*and* Jesus Christ). However, our Heavenly Father’s outward appearance is truly a reflection of His inner beautify (just as a gemstone radiates light). So, from the ‘inside out’ the Lord (YHVH) our God (Creator) is truly ‘clothed’ with great honor (grandeur) and majesty (magnificence, i.e. ornament or splendor), as well as Light (which is symbolic of truth). And then we also learned of how our Heavenly Father stretched (spread) out the ‘heavens’ like a ‘curtain’, which *many* other Scriptures also state, as a declaration of the Lord’s (YHVH’s) ownership, power and authority over His Creation. So, we *should* listen to Him and give Him the respect (and fear), love, honor, truth and obedience He truly deserves! But, we also learned when our Heavenly Father ‘stretched out the heavens like a curtain’; for Genesis tells us it was when He renewed the earth *after* the destruction of the ‘first earth age’ (i.e., ‘the world that then was’, as Peter coined it in 2 Pt 3). So, when God was reforming (renewing) the earth (after its destruction in the *first* earth age), He ‘stretched out the heavens like a curtain’ simply by *dividing* (or separating) *the waters* that had formerly overflowed everything (3 Pt 3:6). So, that space created (by His dividing the waters) was (and still is) the ‘heavens’ above us, which God also called a firmament in Genesis 1:6-8, which simply means an *expanse*. So truly, this Psalm 104:2 gives us a *better* understanding of Genesis 1:6-8, because it gives us a *vivid* analogy of something we can understand with our flesh eyes (i.e. stretching out a curtain).

In part 2 we learned that the Lord (YHVH) created the boundary between the sky (in the earth’s atmosphere) and ‘outer space’. But, fascinatingly, we also learned that He flies around in the sky, in a magnificent flying vehicle (which Ezekiel described, in great detail, in chapter 1), which also has clouds that surround it. Those clouds can be used for warfare (lighting, hail and so forth) or for concealment. But we also learned that our Heavenly Father’s holy ‘angels’ *also* ride in these amazing vehicles, which is why the Psalmist said that the Lord (YHVH) makes His angels ‘spirits’. And we know, from Heb 1:7, that this *is* speaking of God’s ‘angels’ (servants in the heavenly/spiritual dimension), not the winds and fire being His servants (although, they are His servants too). And, while our Heavenly Father has created the spirits of the angels (as He has made all things) He also makes His angels ‘as the wind’ (i.e. spirits) because *they too* fly around in those amazing flying vehicles while on missions for (or with) Him. That’s why Jude 14 says that Jesus will return with *ten thousands of His saints* and Jesus said He would send His angels to gather His elect when He returns (Matt 24:31). But, we also covered Scriptures that proves that

His ‘angels’ have also flown (as the wind) in the magnificent flying vehicles (in the past) when on special missions for the Lord (YHVVH), when helping people *on earth* (such as David, Elijah, Elisha, etc.). Yet, we also know Jesus’ angels guard *us* too, *even today* (Ps 91:11; Mth 18:10).

Yet, we also learned that there’s a *spiritual* application of God’s ‘ministers’ being a ‘flaming fire’. For Deut 4:24 and Heb 12:29 both tells us that *our God is a consuming fire*. And, in Jer 23:29, the Lord (YHVVH) also says: *Is not my word like as a fire?* Indeed, it is – which is why God’s word not only *spiritually* burns the hearts of those who hate Him (Rom 12:20; Rev 2:16; 2 Thess 2:8), but it also warms (comforts and energizes) the hearts of those who love Him (Jer 20:9; John 14:14-18; Acts 9:31; 2 Cor 1:3-5; 2 Thess 3:16-17). So, God’s angels also share His Word (which is *spiritual* fire) when they go on missions for Him, such as when Gabriel was sent to speak to Daniel (Dan 8:16, 9:21), Zacharias (Lk 1:19) and Mary as well (Lk 1:26). But, we also learned that we (in flesh bodies) should also be ‘fanning the flames’ of God’s *spiritual* fire ***by sharing the truth***, i.e. God’s Word. For, as Jesus said: *I am come to send fire on the earth; and what will I if it be already kindled?* (Luke 12:49).

In part 3 we learned that our Heavenly Father (YHVVH) laid the foundations (the principal components of) of the earth (in vs 5). And, ‘the way’ our Heavenly Father *originally* created the earth (in the first earth age) was so that it was *stable* and *upright*, i.e. it didn’t waver or wobble, let alone shake. And that’s because our Heavenly Father created it to be inhabited, as Isaiah 45:18 tells us. But then Satan rebelled against our Heavenly Father and, thus, He **did** ‘shake’ the earth (which Jeremiah 4:23-27 explained) which caused the earth to be flooded with the ‘deep’ (waters from within the earth) to the point where they stood above the mountains (as Ps 104:6 explained). And, we also learned that, Gen 1:2 explains what this Psalm 104 is speaking of too, i.e. the destruction of the first earth age when the earth became wasted and an undistinguishable ruin. And Peter also explained this when he wrote that *the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished* (2 Pt 3:5). Of course, that doesn’t mean the earth ceased to exist but, that *the way* God originally made it *perished* because an earthquake caused waters to flood the earth.

In part 4 we learned that, after the Lord (YHVVH) flooded the earth with water during the *first* earth age, He got rid of the waters simply by commanding them to go ‘*unto the place which thou hast founded for them*’ (Ps 104:8), which means (as Gen 1:9-10 tells us), our Heavenly Father commanded most of the waters to be gathered into one place (which He called the sea) while also commanding dry land to appear. And the dry land (which He called earth) is a boundary the waters cannot pass over again, which is why the *entire* earth has *never again* been flooded (which is why Noah’s flood was *localized*, not global). Yet, our Heavenly Father also purposely caused *some* of the waters to go onto the dry land, for the specific purpose of giving water to His creation. So, it’s *no accident* there are rivers, springs (and so forth) that provide (non-salty) water for His creation to drink. Truly, our Heavenly Father is able to well provide for His creation, which is why (as Jesus taught us in Mth 6:33) we shouldn’t worry about our basic needs (food,

water, shelter, clothing). For, so long as we love and obey the Lord (YHVH), He'll always make sure we have what we *need*. And truly, He usually blesses us far beyond what we really need to survive, so long as we *continue* to seek, love and serve Him (wholeheartedly). And then we also learned how the Lord (YHVH) also provides rain fall for many parts of the earth that the rivers and springs *don't* go to, which in turn provides grass for the animals and food (grain and meat) for us people, too. So, in the physical sense, our Heavenly Father is entirely capable of providing for His creation, including us humans. But, thankfully, He also promises to provide us with *spiritual* food, which is *why* He's given us His written Word. Further to that, since Jesus has come to pay for our sins, He's also given us the Holy Spirit, which helps us to *understand* God's Word, so we can *always* get our daily spiritual bread and living waters (John 4, 6, 10, etc.) – instead of being famished as Amos 8:11 warns of - **if** we simply continue to study His Word *sincerely* and *consistently*.

In part 5 we learned more about how our Heavenly Father so wonderfully provides for His creation. Not only does He provide rivers and springs (and underground water we can access through wells) for water, He also provides rain that is vital to keep the pastures filled with grass, so the cattle don't die; yet it's just as paramount for mankind, because many people grow grain crops that depend *totally* on the rain (even today). And, if you've ever grown crops (or even a garden), you know that rain *from above* (in 'due season') is *far better* than any irrigation system can ever be. Yet He also provides wine, oil and bread that comes from grapes, olives and grain that grows, on account of the rain. These are things we need for lighting, hygiene, nutrition and even enjoyment. But the rain also causes the trees to grow strong and tall; and there are many benefits from the wood that comes from trees, even still today. Cedar is still a valued wood because it repels bugs. Yet the trees also provide homes for many birds (and humans, as well); and even the mountains (high hills) and rocks in them are homes for some of God's creation. It's rather amazing how some animals flourish in some of the areas we think are quite inhospitable (mountains and in the freezingly cold climates), which again proves our Heavenly Father well knows how to provide for His creation. Again, that should remind us not to worry about our basic needs. So long as we fear, revere, love and obey our Heavenly Father, He'll *always* provide for our basic needs (food, water, shelter and clothing); and mostly likely, He'll even bless us *far beyond* our basic needs *when* we continue to love and serve Him (that is His covenantal promise to us, after all).

And then we also learned how the Lord (YHVH) appointed the moon and sun in their seasons. That's why the sun always comes up in the morning and goes down in the evening; while the moon always comes up in the evening and yet goes down in the morning! But we also learned that God gave us the sun, moon and stars for signs, times and seasons. So, we can not only calculate time by them (i.e. have a calendar) but also know when to plant crops and such. Yet, the Zodiac (of the stars) also is a 'sign' to us, for it teaches us God's plan of Salvation. Thus, the stars are a *second witness* to what God's Word also says. And, so long as we don't worship them

(or think they have any control over our lives) it's good for us to study the Zodiac (in conjunction with God's Word) to learn what has been, and what shall be; for the stars (along with the sun and moon) *are* also given to us for 'signs' of what lies ahead.

In part 6 we learned our Heavenly Father has created the night (and the darkness) simply by placing the moon, and stars, in *specific orbits* (around the sun), which is what ensures that there's *always* day and *always* *night*. And He's also created specific animals to flourish at the night time, such as the lions, who usually hunt at night, because it's easier to be successful under the cover of darkness. But, we also learned our Heavenly Father also created animals to be active during the day, such as mankind. And, we also learned that, *spiritually* speaking, we ***should be*** 'children of the day', as Paul wrote in 1 Thess 5:1-9. So, we must continue to study God's Word (which is the Light) so we can discern the darkness (lies) from the Light (truth), *especially* during the 'great day of darkness', which is when Satan is kicked out of heaven, to earth (a.k.a. the *great* tribulation, Mth 24:21). So, while some of God's natural creatures were designed to live in the physical darkness, it's important that we don't dwell in *spiritual* darkness (of lies and confusion), so we're not fooled into becoming the 'children of the night' when Satan comes to try and get everyone on earth to worship him. And lastly, we saw the Psalmist praise the Lord (YHVH) for His manifold (many) works *and* the wisdom from which He used to make them all; truly, He has made the earth full of riches that provide for all His creation. So, if we simply look around. and observe God's magnificent creation – the food chain, the ecosystems, even the human body (etc.) – one whose heart is not hardened (by lust, pride, greed, etc.) *will* come to acknowledge that we **do** truly have a Creator, because all of creation (as well as the heavens, Ps 19) truly 'testifies' of Him.

In part 7 we learned that all the living things in the sea (including the 'creeping things') are truly *innumerable*, which shows the great *magnitude* of our Heavenly Father's creation. For, even today (with all our technology), scientists are *still* discovering new creatures that live deep within the seas. And then, we also learned that, all of God's creation (from the smallest creeping things, to the largest animals) all depend on our Heavenly Father for their 'meat in due season', which He is well able to provide for them. And, of course, our Heavenly Father will also provide our 'meat in due season' (physically and spiritually) *if* we love, and serve Him, *faithfully* (that's a part of His Covenant, after all). And then, we also learned that, all of God's creation have a time to be born (created) and a time to die. But thankfully, when we humans die, our spirit goes back to our Heavenly Father (in the spiritual/heavenly dimension) even though our flesh goes back to the dust it came from (decomposes back into dust/soil). And then, we also learned of more verses that are *very* similar to Psalms that David wrote (Ps 104:16 is a lot like Ps 145:16; and Ps 104:27 and Ps 145:16 are nearly identical to each other) which *strongly* suggest that David was *most likely* the one who wrote this Psalm 104.

In part 8 we learned how temporary flesh is (including this fleshly, second earth age) compared to our Heavenly Father's glory (honor), which is truly as eternal as He is. And then we learned our Heavenly Father *will* rejoice in His 'work' (the new heaven and new earth), as will all those who choose to turn back to our Heavenly Father, in sincere repentance, and accept Jesus Christ. And then we learned of an example that shows us the *great* power of our Heavenly Father. He can make the earth to tremble, simply with a glance; and cause the mountains to smoke, simply with a touch. Likewise, with just a few words, Jesus Christ not only healed people (Lk 7:6-10; Mth 9:1-8) but also raised Lazarus from the dead (John 11:41-44). In fact, so powerful is the Word of God that, He not only destroyed the *first* earth age **with His Word** (Gen 1:2) but also renewed it **with His Word** (Gen 1:3 onward). Thus, when the Lord creates the 'new' heaven and earth, for eternity (Rev 21:1), it'll *also* be with the power of His Word. And then we saw the Psalmist promise to sing praise unto, and celebrate, the Lord (YHWH) (for His many wonderful works) as long as he was alive. But, he also spoke of how sweet it was to meditate (think about) the Lord when he wrote this Psalm. Indeed, God's Word is 'sweet' to our soul (and spirit) because it gives us *the truth* (spiritual food) we need to live forever. And then we saw the Psalmist call for the 'ultimate' judgment (of the wicked and sinners), that *only* comes at the *very end* of the Millennium (Rev 20:10-15); when all people (who didn't make the first resurrection, Rev 20:4-6) are judged at the 'Great White Throne Judgment'. So, in contrast to those who praise the Lord (YHWH), and meditate of Him (i.e. on His Word), the wicked will be, eventually, consumed out of the earth, which means they will, indeed, be 'no more'. And this thought – of the wicked being *fully* destroyed (as the fat of lambs dissipates into nothing when it touches the fire) *forever* – is *what caused* the Psalmist to end the Psalm with: *Bless thou the LORD, O my soul. Praise ye the LORD*. And lastly, we learned that the words 'Praise ye the Lord' are the Hebrew word (which many Christians actually know) "Hallelujah". And this is actually the *first* 'Hallelujah' in the Old Testament. And it's likely *because of* the fact that it's connected to the overthrow (and total destruction of) the wicked. In fact, this is the same with the first 'Hallelujah' in the New Testament (Rev 19:1-2) as well! Thus, it is the punishment of the wicked (blotting them out of existence, forever) *that saves the righteous!* For, after the wicked are gone (forever - never to exist, or even be remembered, again), we can finally live in peace and safety *forever*. And that is truly, *why* we will be singing 'Praise the Lord' as the eternity begins!

20 The LORD preserveth all them that love him: but all the wicked will he destroy.

21 My mouth shall speak the praise of the LORD: and let all flesh bless his holy name for ever and ever.

Ps 145:20-21

AMEN.