

ATTENTION!!

MeetUp Class
Monday, May 16, at 7:00 p.m.
28561 Sunnyslope St.
Desert Hot Springs CA 92241

Praise God!

*“Lord, our Lord, how majestic is Your name in all the earth,
You who have displayed Your splendor above the heavens!”*

Psalms 8:1

Visiting Needs

Jesus Said...*“I was sick, and you visited Me...”*

Matthew 25:36

May Birthdays

2 Peggy Woodruff

15 Kena Brown

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“Splendor Above the Heavens!”

By Bruce Evans

David employed his skills as a wordsmith profoundly as seen in verse one of the eighth psalm. *“O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is Thy name in all the earth. Who hast displayed Thy splendor above the heavens!”* For millennia mankind rhapsodized about exploring the immensity of the universe. Over six hundred individuals have gone into space, and that from thirty-seven countries. Of those, eighteen have lost their lives while engaged in that quest. NASA helped to create the international Space Station, but now has shifted its focus to deep space investigation. A staggering 1.35 trillion dollars has been spent over the years searching the universe.



Regardless of how far mankind’s spacecrafts will carry intrepid space explorers, they will only touch the slightest edge of the majesty and expanse of the universe and what God created. *“The heavens are telling of the glory of God; and their expanse is declaring the work of His hands.”* (Psalms 19:1) *“It is He who made the earth by His power, who established the world by His wisdom; and by His understanding He stretched out the heavens.”* (Jeremiah 10:12)

Isaiah notes in chapter forty and verse twenty- six, *“Lift up your eyes on high and see who has created these stars, the One who leads forth their host by number, He calls them all by name; because of the greatness of His might and the strength of His*

Regular Meeting Times

Sunday.....9:45 a.m.

Sunday.....10:45 a.m.

Wednesday.....7:00 p.m.

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power not one of them is missing.” The omnipotence of God on display in the splendor of His creation. It is a rare treat to visit Zion National Park but do yourself a favor and find time to do so; especially when the weather is conducive to being outside at night. When darkness has fully fallen, step into the darkness and look skyward. Your breath will be taken away, even more so if you happen to be there during a full moon. You will no doubt echo what David wrote in verse three of Psalms 8. *“When I consider Thy heavens, the work of Thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which Thou has ordained”*

Undoubtedly, we will have overwhelming feelings of how small mankind is in the grand scope of things. Which is the same thoughts that went through David’s mind as evidenced in verse four of Psalms 8. *“What is man, that Thou dost take thought of him? And the son of man that Thou dost care for him?”* True God the Creator of the universe reigns above all, nevertheless He sees worth for mankind. So much so, that He sent forth His Son to pay the price for sin, that each and everyone would be presented with the opportunity to be saved (see Romans 5:6-19; 1John 2:1-3 Et al) Paul as he stood before the Areopagus, staunchly stressed that God *“made the world and all things in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth”* (Acts 17:24) A few verses later Paul pointed out, *“that they should seek God, if perhaps they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us”* (v 27). The evidence abounds that God is and wants us to reach out to Him.

Take time to consider three verses from Hebrews the 11th chapter. *“Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.”* (v 1) *“By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things which are visible.”* (v 3) *“And without faith is impossible to please Him, for he who come to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him.”* (v 6). How could anyone look at the majesty of God’s creation and not want to seek Him?

“Yet those who hope in the Lord will gain new strength; they will mount up with wings like eagles, they will run and not get tired, they will walk and not become weary.”

Isaiah 40:31

Wrapped in Light

By Al Behel

When I read the Psalms, I often wonder if I really know how to praise God. David and other Psalters seemed to grasp the essence of their Creator far better than we have done. Their recognition of His presence and power, as well as His love and mercy, caused them to lift their voices in hymns of praise with hearts of devotion.

One of those Psalms portrays the majesty of God by describing seven wonders of His creation. Following a declaration of God’s greatness as one who is *“clothed with splendor and majesty”*, King David outlines the various ways in which God has revealed Himself through His creation (Psalm 104).

First, he declares that God *“wraps Himself in light as with a garment; He stretches out the heavens like a tent”* (v. 2). The sky is filled with evidence of His glory. The Hebrew word for “wraps” suggest that God “darkens” Himself with light. His splendor is so wonderful that man cannot see it but can only stand in awe of it. We look at His creation and marvel at what He has made. The psalmist was able to look beyond the creation to the glory of the One who made it.

The second wonder David mentions is the earth, around which He has set a boundary (vs. 5-9). In another psalm he declared *“the whole earth is full of Thy glory.”* Next, he praises God for the water which God supplies to the earth and its inhabitants. When he looks at the grass and flowers and trees, he erupts in praise that the Lord has taken care of every need through massive vegetation. As one who spent many nights on the mountain ranges with the sheep he had shepherded, David couldn’t forget the moon and the sun. Their radiant beauty was a constant reminder that God was near. The sea, *“vast and spacious”* (v.25), is structurally balanced with the celestial realm of creation.

The crowning part of God’s creation is man himself, to whom He has given life and for which He deserves to be praised and worshipped. David concludes his thoughts by saying, *“May the glory of the Lord endure forever.”*