# Lecture 05 Psalm 8<sup>th</sup>

Today, we will think about Psalm 8. Before this, we have already talked about Psalm 1, Psalm 2, and Psalm 3.

Also, Psalms 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7—which are five in number—all contain prayers and weeping before the Lord.

Surely, if you have read Psalm 3 with attention and focus and joined in its teaching, then you can understand and apply Psalms 4, 5, 6, and 7 by yourself.

But now, we turn to Psalm 8, which is a psalm of praise and worship.

## A Psalm of Praise and Worship

This psalm is a pure and holy song of praise, sung in honor of the great and mighty God. It contains no request, no prayer, no sorrow, and no pleading.

Instead, the writer of the psalm fully praises and honors the Creator of the universe, the Lord Yahweh, and gives Him thanks and praise for His wonderful works, because He is the One who made the heavens and the earth, and He is the One who holds everything in place by His powerful hand.

So, let us now read Psalm 8:

A Psalm of David. For the Chief Musician, on the instrument of Gath.

## O Lord, our Lord!

How great is Your name in all the earth! You have set Your glory above the heavens. Out of the mouth of babies and little children, You have made praise strong, so that, because of Your enemies, You may stop the enemy and the one who wants revenge.

When I think about Your heavens, **SOSPEL MINISTRIES** the work of Your fingers, the moon and the stars that You have set in place what is man that You remember him? And what is the son of man that You care for him?

You have made him a little lower than the angels, and You have crowned him with glory and honor. You have given him rule over the works of Your hands, and You have put all things under his feet: all sheep and oxen, and also the animals of the field, the birds of the air and the fish of the sea, and whatever passes through the paths of the seas.

#### O Lord, our Lord!

How great is Your name in all the earth!

## The Psalm Writer's Thoughts on the Glory of God

This psalm, which has nine verses, is a deep reflection on the glory of the Lord, which He has shown through His creation—that is, through the heavens, the earth, and the creation of human beings.

This same topic is also found in Proverbs chapter 3, verses 19 and 20, and then in chapter 8, verses 22 to 31.

Also, there are two other psalms like this one which praise the Lord as the Creator: **Psalm 19** and **Psalm 104**. These psalms speak about the glory of God, because He is the Creator and Master of the heavens, the earth, and everything in them.

Some wise people call this psalm a **Psalm of Praise**, because it accepts the Lord as the Creator of all things—whether seen or unseen. Others call it a **Psalm of Wisdom**, because in it, the writer shows amazement at the great honor and respect that God has given to humans among all His creation.

In our language, people often say, "God made man the noblest of all creation." And look, this psalm says the same thing—that even though the Lord is the Creator of the heavens, the earth, stars, planets, seas, rivers, mountains, and deserts, still, among all His creation, He gave man the highest and most special place.

## Man's Rule and High Position

In verse 4, the psalm writer cries out, "What is man that You remember him? And the son of man that You care for him?"

And in verse 5, he says, "You made him a little lower than the angels, and You crowned him with glory and honor."

This high and great position that the Lord gave to man and woman—that is, both male and female—has its root in the first chapter of the book of Genesis, where in verse 28 it says that God made man in His image and likeness, and gave him rule over the earth, so that he would be the caretaker and protector of all creation.

## The Psalm Covered in Glory

This psalm has a very glorious structure, because its first and last verse are the same: "O Lord, our Lord! How great is Your name in all the earth!"

This psalm begins and ends with the same amazing statement, because it is completely focused on the glory of the Almighty Lord.

## **Explanation of the Psalm's Messag**

Praise be! Look, the message hidden in the verses of this psalm is this:

## The Glorious Nature of the Name of Yahweh

## "O Lord, our Master! How glorious is Your name in all the earth!"

Here, the psalm writer talks directly to Yahweh and says, "O Yahweh, how glorious is Your name in all the earth!"

When someone reads the English translation, it says: **"How majestic is Thy name!"** But if someone studies the original text, they will find that the Hebrew word **"Adir"** (778) is used here. This word **Adir** means:

- Beautiful
- Glorious
- Grand
- Wonderful

So the psalm writer is saying that Yahweh's name is truly **Adir**—that is, great, wonderful, and full of glory in all the earth.

## Yahweh's Uniqueness Among the gods of Nations

In ancient times, the nations around Israel worshiped many gods and goddesses. In the ancient Near East, many gods were considered holy, and every god was a creation of human thinking. Yes, their gods were made by their own hands, and they would assign each god to a special area where that god was believed to rule.

But look! The psalm writer shares a powerful truth here:

Yahweh's name is not great in just one village, one city, or one kingdom. His name is glorious in **all the earth**.

## Yahweh's Limitlessness

- He has no limits.
- He is eternal.
- He has no end.

## "You have set Your glory above the heavens."

The nations around Israel used to believe the sky was divine and would worship it. They bowed to the sun, moon, and stars and called them gods. But David declares here: Israel's God is above the heavens.

## In This Verse, the Psalm Writer Shows a Battle Picture

In this verse, the writer of the Psalm paints a military picture—a picture of war. He shows that, against the noise and attacks of enemies, the protection and defense of God's people is their **voice of praise**.

## Fulfillment of This Psalm in the New Testament

When we study the Psalms, we look at them through **Biblical Theology**.

We think about their meaning in history, and then we understand how they are fulfilled in the New Testament.

So, it is not surprising that our Lord Jesus Christ Himself **mentioned this Psalm** and applied it to His ministry.

## **Religious Leaders as Enemies in Psalm 8:2**

Our Lord Jesus Christ corrected the chief priests and the teachers of the law,

and He said that the children who were praising Him were fulfilling the prophecy of **Psalm 8:2**. The religious leaders were angry because people were giving glory to Jesus and calling Him **''Son of David''**, which is a title for the Messiah.

But Jesus accepted their praise, and He said these children were like the **babies and infants** mentioned in Psalm 8,

through whom Yahweh shows His power.

#### **Christ's Divine Identity in the Psalm**

Another mystery is shown in this passage. In **Psalm 8:2**, the praise is given to Yahweh, but in **Matthew 21:15–16**, the children are praising **Jesus Christ**.

## Yahweh Rules Over All Creation

So, in its historical meaning, this Psalm gives a powerful message: Israel's God, **Yahweh**, is the only God, He is unique, and He is like no one else. He is **Almighty**, the One who has all power, and the Ruler over all creation.

## Strength Given Through the Mouth of Children

Now, let's look at the second verse. Is the first verse clear to you? Are you with me?

#### "Out of the mouth of children and babies You have established strength, because of Your enemies, to silence the enemy and the one who takes revenge."

This verse shows the **power and glory** of our God, because He is so strong that He defeats His enemies **not through the strength of warriors** or **armies**, but through the **mouths of children and babies**.

## Yahweh's Praise: A Weapon Against His Enemies

Surely, praising and worshiping Yahweh is enough. Yes, the voice of praise and thanks that comes from children and babies is enough to **silence and defeat** Yahweh's enemies.

## The Power of Praise Is a Divine Fortress

In this verse, the psalm writer gives a **military picture**, a picture of war. He shows that, against the noise and attacks of enemies, the defense and protection of God's people is their **voice of praise**.

(Repeated again for clarity, as in the original text.)

## Fulfillment of This Psalm in the New Testament

When we study the Psalms, we look at them through **Biblical Theology**.

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## Christ's Divine Identity in the Psalm

Another mystery is shown in this passage. In Psalm 8:2, the praise is for Yahweh, but in Matthew 21:15–16, the children are praising **Jesus Christ**.

So, Jesus puts Himself in the place of God. He says that whoever is against Him is actually against Yahweh, and whoever worships Him is like those children and infants through whom Yahweh shows His power.

## The Lord of Psalm 8 is revealed in Jesus Christ

Psalm 8 shows Yahweh as the Creator, Ruler, Glorious One, and worthy of praise. But in Matthew 21:15-16, we see that the same Yahweh is shown in the person of Jesus Christ. And young people, children, and ordinary people praise Him and give honor to His name. Because truly, the Lord of Psalm 8 is no one else but the Lord Jesus Christ Himself.

## The Glory of Yahweh in the Heavens

"When I look at Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, the moon and the stars that You have set in place, then I wonder: What is man that You are mindful of him? And the son of man that You care for him?"

Look, the psalm writer lifts his eyes to the heavenly bodies and says that the sky is not a result of chance or accident, but it is the work of God's hands. In the ancient Near East, idol worshipers and pagans believed that the sky, sun, moon, and stars were the results of fights between gods. But the psalmist says that all of this is the creation of one powerful and wise Creator.

Hallelujah! The sky is the work of Your hands — and even more, in the Hebrew text it says: "the work of Your fingers." In English translations, it says "the work of Your hands," but in Hebrew, it says "Your fingers' work," which shows that the Almighty made them with complete wisdom and purpose.

## What is man that You are mindful of him?

Look, there is no mention of the sun here, but the moon and the stars are mentioned - You set

all these things in place. And that's why the psalmist cries out: "What is man that You are mindful of him? And the son of man that You care for him?"

When scientists travel into space and see Earth from the sky, this planet looks like just a small dot — only one of the eight planets in our solar system, a tiny seed on the wide canvas of creation.

#### Wisdom from the mouths of children and infants

Look, my son, who is only four years old, was learning about the sky and planets in school. At home, we have a table mat that shows pictures of all the planets, with their names, sizes, and shapes.

A few days ago, at night, my son was standing in the garden and looking at the sky. Suddenly, he happily started calling his mother:

"Mom! Mom! Look! Look! It's the planet Venus!"

First, she was surprised, thinking that maybe the child was just saying something from his imagination. But when Angelina saw the picture of the planet Venus on the internet, it was really the same one the child was looking at.

This is what is written: "You have established strength from the mouths of children and infants." This is not just poetry but a divine truth. Yes, small children, whom the world thinks are weak and foolish, become full of wisdom and knowledge by seeing God's works.

## Man: A little less than God, but dressed in glory

And we should not be like the writer who opposes God's word. No, we do not reject His truth but say, "You speak the truth," because we are not like those who are against God.

The psalm writer says in verse 4: **GOSPEL MINISTERES** "What is man that You are mindful of him? And the son of man that You care for him?"

#### Clothed in glory and honor

It is written:

"You made him a little lower than God, and crowned him with glory and honor." (Psalm 8:5)

Hallelujah! Though man is small in size, he is second in rank and position after God. This truth should shake your heart and give joy to your soul! Because it is such a great and holy honor! Look how much you are worth, because God made you only a little lower than Himself.

## God's image: A living testimony

In the ancient Near East, when a king conquered a land and made his rule there, he would make a statue or an idol in that land to show his power. But look, when the Almighty established His kingdom on earth, He did not make any statue or idol but created man in His own image.

#### Divine responsibility: Stewardship on earth

It is written: "And God blessed them, and said, Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it." (Genesis 1:28)

This is the cultural command God gave to humankind. We are God's representatives and caretakers on earth. We must take care of His trees, fields, animals, and birds.

#### **Everything under His feet**

The psalm writer says in verse 6: "You made him ruler over the works of Your hands; You put everything under his feet."

But when we read the New Testament, in 1 Corinthians 15:27, Apostle Paul applies Psalm 8:6 to Jesus Christ:

"For He has put everything under His feet."

## Jesus Christ: The second Adam, the final ruler

The first Adam lost his rule by falling into sin, but the second Adam, Jesus Christ, remained without sin. When He was crucified, on the third day He rose from the dead and now sits at God's right hand in heaven, where He has eternal glory and rule. The final meaning of Psalm 8:6 is about Christ. And those who are from Adam's line, if they want to be restored, must believe in the second Adam and repent.

## **Conclusion: Praise and worship to God**

So, like the psalm writer, let us praise God in pure worship, because God is great and very worthy of praise. Hallelujah!