

Psalms of Creation

- Psalm 8 – Glory of God and Mankind
- Psalm 19 – Heavens and the Sky (Days 1 & 4)
- Psalm 29 – Water and Weather (Days 2 & 5)
- Psalm 104 – Earth and Animals (Days 3 & 6)



1

God speaks to humanity through his created world

Clear ¹ The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork. *shamayim* = heavens

Continual ² Day to day pours out speech, and night to night reveals knowledge. *raqia* = sky, firmament, expanse

³ There is no speech, nor are there words, whose voice is not heard. *cabod* = glory, weight, heaviness

Complete ⁴ Their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world.

Beautiful, Life-giving, Strength, Constancy In them he has set a tent for the sun, which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his chamber, and, like a strong man, runs its course with joy.

Complete, Ordered ⁶ Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them, and there is nothing hidden from its heat.

2

YHWH speaks through the Torah

⁷ The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple;

⁸ the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes;

⁹ the fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever; the rules of the LORD are true, and righteous altogether.

¹⁰ More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb.

¹¹ Moreover, by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.

10 statements about the law / 5 verses
(10 commandments / Pentateuch)

3

The worshiper responds

¹² Who can discern his errors? Declare me innocent from hidden faults.

¹³ Keep back your servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me! Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression.

¹⁴ Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, *Hagah* (meditation)

O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

4

The Theology of Psalm 19

- God is both **immanent** and **transcendent**
- God wants to be known (**relational**)
- YHWH is the God of all creation (**not a local deity**)
- The **laws of nature** and the **moral law** both reveal God’s glory
- God’s **world** and his **word speak the same reality** (science and scripture do not conflict)
- The **Torah stands between God and man** as the revelation of God and the means of salvation
- YHWH is **Rock** and **Redeemer**

5

Psalm 29 – Water and Weather



- ¹ Ascribe to the LORD, **O heavenly beings**, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
- ² Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness.
- ³ The **voice of the LORD is over the waters;** West
the God of glory thunders,
the LORD, **over many waters.**
- ⁴ The **voice of the LORD is powerful;**
the **voice of the LORD is full of majesty.**
- ⁵ The **voice of the LORD breaks the cedars;** North
the LORD breaks the cedars of **Lebanon.**
- ⁶ He makes **Lebanon** to skip like a calf,
and **Sirion** like a young wild ox.

11

Psalm 29 – Water and Weather



- ⁷ The **voice of the LORD** flashes forth flames of fire.
- ⁸ The **voice of the LORD** shakes the wilderness;
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh. South
- ⁹ The **voice of the LORD** makes the deer give birth
and strips the forests bare,
and in his temple all cry, “Glory!”
- ¹⁰ The **LORD sits enthroned over the flood;**
the LORD sits enthroned as king forever.
- ¹¹ May the LORD give **strength** to his people!
May the LORD bless his people with **peace!**

15

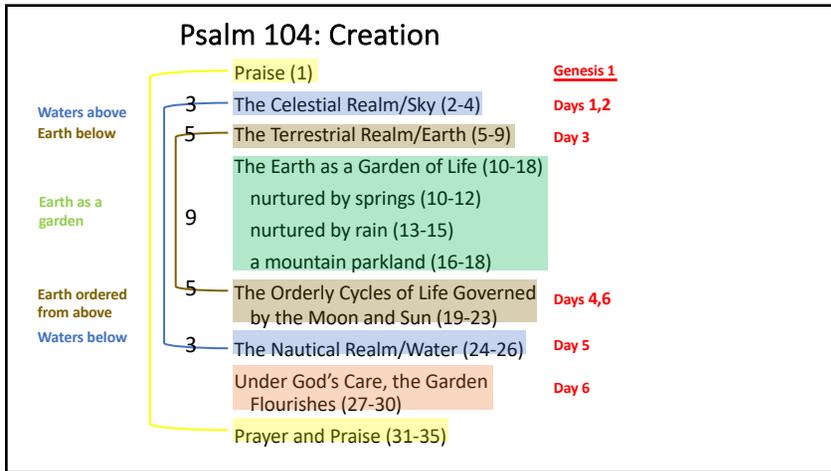
The Days of Creation in Genesis 1

Environment		Inhabitants
1. Light/Dark	TIME	4. Luminaries (Sun, Moon, Stars)
2. Waters Below (Seas)/ Waters Above (Sky)	WEATHER	5. Fish/Birds
3. Water/Land (plants)	FOOD	6. Animals/Mankind

And the earth was formless and empty... (Genesis 1:2)

Forming (Days 1-3) Filling (Days 4-6)

20



21

¹ Bless the LORD, O my soul!

The Celestial Realm/Sky (1b-4)

O LORD my God, you are very great!
 You are clothed with splendor and majesty,

² covering yourself with light as with a garment,
 stretching out the heavens like a tent.

³ He lays the beams of his chambers on the waters;
 he makes the clouds his chariot;
 he rides on the wings of the wind;

⁴ he makes his messengers winds,
 his ministers a flaming fire.

YHWH – 10 times
“earth” – 7 times

Psalm 19:4
 In [the heavens] he's pitched a tent for the sun

Psalm 68:4
 extol him who rides on the clouds

22

The Terrestrial Realm/Earth (5-9)

⁵ He set the earth on its foundations,
 so that it should never be moved.

⁶ You covered it with the deep as with a garment;
 the waters stood above the mountains.

⁷ At your rebuke they fled;
 at the sound of your thunder they took to flight.

⁸ The mountains rose, the valleys sank down
 to the place that you appointed for them.

⁹ You set a boundary that they may not pass,
 so that they might not again cover the earth.

23

The Earth as a Garden of Life (10-18)

¹⁰ You make springs gush forth in the valleys;
 they flow between the hills;

¹¹ they give drink to every beast of the field;
 the wild donkeys quench their thirst.

¹² Beside them the birds of the heavens dwell;
 they sing among the branches.

Waters Below

24

The Earth as a Garden of Life (10-18)

- 13 From your lofty abode you water the mountains;
the earth is satisfied with the fruit of your work.
- 14 You cause the grass to grow for the livestock
and plants for man to cultivate,
that he may bring forth food from the earth
and wine to gladden the heart of man,
oil to make his face shine
and bread to strengthen man's heart.
- Waters Above**
- God is a gardener**

25

The Earth as a Garden of Life (10-18)

- 16 The trees of the LORD are watered abundantly,
the cedars of Lebanon that he planted.
- 17 In them the birds build their nests;
the stork has her home in the fir trees.
- 18 The high mountains are for the wild goats;
the rocks are a refuge for the rock badgers.
- A Mountain Parkland**

26

The Orderly Cycles of Life Governed by the Moon and Sun (19-23)

- 19 He made the moon to mark the seasons;^[a]
the sun knows its time for setting.
- 20 You make darkness, and it is night,
when all the beasts of the forest creep about.
- 21 The young lions roar for their prey,
seeking their food from God.
- 22 When the sun rises, they steal away
and lie down in their dens.
- 23 Man goes out to his work
and to his labor until the evening.

[Psalm 104:19](#) Or the appointed times (compare [Genesis 1:14](#))

27

The Nautical Realm (24-26)

- 24 O LORD, how manifold are your works!
In wisdom have you made them all;
the earth is full of your creatures.
- 25 Here is the sea, great and wide,
which teems with creatures innumerable,
living things both small and great.
- 26 There go the ships,
and Leviathan, which you formed to play in it.^[b]

[Psalm 104:26](#) Or you formed to play with

28

Under God’s Care, the Garden Flourishes (27-30)

- 27 These all look to you,
to give them their food in due season.
- 28 When you give it to them, they gather it up;
when you open your hand, they are filled with good things.
- 29 When you hide your face, they are dismayed;
when you take away their breath, they die
and return to their dust.
- 30 When you send forth your Spirit,^[c] they are created,
and you renew the face of the ground. *Adamah (ground)*

[Psalm 104:30](#) Or breath

29

Prayer and Praise (31-35)

- 31 May the glory of the LORD endure forever;
may the LORD rejoice in his works,
- 32 who looks on the earth and it trembles,
who touches the mountains and they smoke!
- 33 I will sing to the LORD as long as I live;
I will sing praise to my God while I have being.
- 34 May my meditation be pleasing to him,
for I rejoice in the LORD.
- 35 Let sinners be consumed from the earth,
and let the wicked be no more!

Bless the LORD, O my soul!
Praise the LORD! *Hallelujah*

[Psalm 104:35](#) Hebrew, *Hallelu Yah* ; in the Septuagint this line stands at the beginning of Psalm 105

30

YHWH is:

- Sovereign Creator
- Good
- Transcendent
- Immanent
- A Gardener

30“Then will appear the sign of the Son of Man in heaven. And then all the peoples of the earth will mourn when they see the **Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven, with power and great glory.** 31 And he will send his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of the heavens to the other. (Matthew 24:30-31)

31