

Psalms of Disorientation & Disorientation

The First 14 Psalms are arranged in a group

A	1 – Wisdom (God blesses)	Orientation
	2 – YHWH is king (God rules)	Orientation
B	3-7 – Why? Laments about personal injustice	Disorientation
C	8 – Hymn of praise	Orientation
B	9-13 – Why? Laments about societal injustice	Disorientation
A	14 – Wisdom ("The fool says in his heart, 'There is no god'")	Orientation

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A	1 O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens.	YHWH
B ¹	2 Out of the mouth of babies and infants, you have established strength because of your foes, to still the enemy and the avenger.	Heavens
C	3 When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place,	
	4 what is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him?	Mankind
	5 Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor.	
B ²	6 You have given him dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under his feet,	Earth
	7 all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field, the birds of the heavens, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the seas.	
A	9 O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!	YHWH

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- 1 O LORD, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!
You have set your glory above the heavens.
- 2 Out of the mouth of babies and infants,
you have established strength because of your foes,
to still the enemy and the avenger.
- 3 When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars, which you have set in place,
- 4 what is man that you are mindful of him,
and the son of man that you care for him?
- 5 Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings
and crowned him with glory and honor.
- 6 You have given him dominion over the works of your hands;
you have put all things under his feet,
- 7 all sheep and oxen,
and also the beasts of the field,
the birds of the heavens, and the fish of the sea,
whatever passes along the paths of the seas.
- 9 O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!
- "glory" = howdka
(splendor, majesty, beauty)*
- "ordained praise" – LXX, NIV*
- "man" – enosh
"son of man" – ben adam*
- Heb – elohim
LXX – angelous*
- "glory" = cabod (heaviness, brilliance)
Imago dei = image of God*
- 3 Domains: earth, sky, water*

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Unique aspects of biblical creation (vs. ancient mythology)

- God alone creates as an artist, not in battle with other gods
- The cosmos was created out of nothing (ex nihilo)
- The material world is very good
- Human beings have inherent value and dignity

A Worldview Psalm answers the questions of:

- Origin
- Identity
- Purpose
- Destiny

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Psalm 8: Jesus

For the director of music. According to gittith ¹⁴. A psalm of David.

¹ O LORD, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!
You have set your glory above the heavens.

² Out of the mouth of babies and infants,
you have established strength because of your foes,
to still the enemy and the avenger.

³ When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars, which you have set in place,

⁴ what is man that you are mindful of him,
and the son of man that you care for him?

⁵ Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings¹⁵,
and crowned him with glory and honor.

⁶ You have given him dominion over the works of your hands;
you have put all things under his feet,

⁷ all sheep and oxen,
and also the beasts of the field,

⁸ the birds of the heavens, and the fish of the sea,
whatever passes along the paths of the seas.

⁹ O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

[Psalm 8:1](#) Probably a musical or liturgical term
[Psalm 8:5](#) Or than God; Septuagint than the angels

Matthew 21:16 – an implied claim to deity

Matthew 21:14-16

¹⁴ And the blind and the lame came to him in the temple, and he healed them. ¹⁵ But when the chief priests and the scribes saw the wonderful things that he did, and the children crying out in the temple, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" they were indignant, ¹⁶ and they said to him, "Do you hear what these are saying?" **And Jesus said to them, "Yes; have you never read, "Out of the mouth of infants and nursing babies you have prepared praise?"**

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Psalm 8: New Testament

For the director of music. According to gittith ¹⁴. A psalm of David.

¹ O LORD, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!
You have set your glory above the heavens.

² Out of the mouth of babies and infants,
you have established strength because of your foes,
to still the enemy and the avenger.

³ When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars, which you have set in place,

⁴ what is man that you are mindful of him,
and the son of man that you care for him?

⁵ Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings¹⁵,
and crowned him with glory and honor.

⁶ You have given him dominion over the works of your hands;
you have put all things under his feet,

⁷ all sheep and oxen,
and also the beasts of the field,

⁸ the birds of the heavens, and the fish of the sea,
whatever passes along the paths of the seas.

⁹ O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

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Hebrews 2:6-8

8

Hebrews 2:6-9

For it was not to angels that God subjected the world to come, of which we are speaking. ⁶ It has been testified somewhere,

"What is man, that you are mindful of him,
or the son of man, that you care for him?"

⁷ You made him for a little while lower than the angels;
you have crowned him with glory and honor,
⁸ putting everything in subjection under his feet."

Now in putting everything in subjection to him, he left nothing outside his control. At present, we do not yet see everything in subjection to him. ⁹ But we see him who for a little while was made lower than the angels, namely Jesus, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

Hebrews 2:6-9 – Jesus made a little lower than the angels (for a time and in degree), his incarnation & glorification, "tasted death" for everyone

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Psalm 8: Personal Application

For the director of music. According to gittith ¹⁴. A psalm of David.

¹ O LORD, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!
You have set your glory above the heavens.

² Out of the mouth of babies and infants,
you have established strength because of your foes,
to still the enemy and the avenger.

³ When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars, which you have set in place,

⁴ what is man that you are mindful of him,
and the son of man that you care for him?

⁵ Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings¹⁵,
and crowned him with glory and honor.

⁶ You have given him dominion over the works of your hands;
you have put all things under his feet,

⁷ all sheep and oxen,
and also the beasts of the field,

⁸ the birds of the heavens, and the fish of the sea,
whatever passes along the paths of the seas.

⁹ O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

[Psalm 8:1](#) Probably a musical or liturgical term
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1. Marvel at the glory of God revealed in creation

2. Marvel at the value and dignity that God places on each human being

3. Marvel at the God who entered into our world and tasted death for us

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