2. Light Revealing God

Psalm 19

Robert C. Newman
Our Passage

Psalm 19:1-6
Psalm 19:1 (NIV) The heavens declare the glory of God;  
the skies proclaim the work of his hands.  
2 Day after day they pour forth speech;  
night after night they display knowledge.  
3 There is no speech or language  
where their voice is not heard.  
4 Their voice goes out into all the earth,  
their words to the ends of the world.  
In the heavens he has pitched a tent for the sun,  
5 which is like a bridegroom coming forth from his pavilion,  
like a champion rejoicing to run his course.  
6 It rises at one end of the heavens  
and makes its circuit to the other;  
nothing is hidden from its heat.
What Is It Saying?
Who Is Acting?

- Heavens (declaring)
- Skies/Expanse (proclaiming)
- Day (pouring forth speech)
- Night (displaying knowledge)
- Sun
  - Coming forth, rising
  - Running
  - Circling
What Are They Telling?

• God’s glory
  – His importance
  – His nature

• His handiwork
  – Learn about craftsman’s skill via his work

• Knowledge
  – About God
Who Is Being Told?

• Every day, every night
• Throughout the earth
• To the ends of the world
• From one end of heaven to another
• Nothing hidden
• So, the message is available to everyone.
How Are They Telling?

• Are they speaking?
  – No.
  – One translation has it:
    They have no speech, there are no words;
    no sound is heard from them

• Illustration: signaling with light
  – Boy Scouts w/ flashlights, mirrors
  – Navy (before radio) w/ signal lamps
How do they tell us about God’s existence?

• Our passage doesn’t say.
• Some suggestions:
  – Regularity of movements $\rightarrow$ order
  – Complexity of movements $\rightarrow$ wisdom
  – So a wise Creator (known in ancient times).
  – Running down of universe $\rightarrow$ beginning
  – So an Starter (a more recent argument).
Conclusions

• God is using the sky to tell us something about:
  – His glory
  – His handiwork

• It is very easy to live as though God doesn’t exist, but it is foolish.
  – Illustration: the farmer’s plane ride
  – What holds the farmer up?
The End