“Christ in the Psalms: God’s Perfect Word”

Psalm 19:7-14

(notes based on the sermon by Pastor Steve Massey, Hayden Bible Church, 3/13/22)

 God desires to be known. He reveals Himself clearly through His creation and our consciences, but He only discloses Himself relationally through the Word of God, the Holy Bible. We come to the scriptures to behold God. There is a shift in Psalm 19 beginning in verse 7. The psalmist goes from talking about natural revelation to talking about revelation through God’s Word. Just as the sun brings life to our planet, God’s Word imparts life to His people.

 Verses 7-9 talk of the law as God’s revealed will. We have no need to come up with our own truth. We shouldn’t read our emotions or our circumstances like tea leaves. We are meant to live God-directed lives by the Word of God. The Word of God is the will of God revealed to the people of God. (Q1) Man’s laws have many unintended consequences, but God’s laws are perfect. Nothing needful is missing from God’s Word; it is completely sufficient for His people. Is God’s Word operative in your life right now? Is it active in your life right now? If you are to know error from truth, if you are to live righteously, you must be a student of scripture (2Tim. 3:16-17). That is why we are called Hayden BIBLE Church. Our strong focus is on applying God’s Word to daily living, conforming us to Jesus Christ.

 Verse 7 says that the law restores the soul. Our soul needs to be brought back into alignment with God’s intention from the beginning of creation. Only God’s covenant people see His Word the way it should be. For others it’s just a textbook. For His people, God’s Word is the instrument of salvation (Rom. 10:17). God’s Word is also critical for your sanctification: living out a godly life for Him, bringing the wisdom of God to the messy parts of life. Is the Word of God the dominating influence in your life? Pastor Steve said, “To hear the voice of God audibly, READ YOUR BIBLE OUT LOUD!!!” And don’t just read it, live it and obey it. The most common mistake in reading the Bible is the failure to integrate it into our lives.

 Does the Word of God bring you JOY as He speaks to you? Verse 8 says that it should. Mankind is created for God’s glory. What man needs the most is the gospel of Jesus Christ. He saves us from the penalty of sin, He gives us words of life, and He directs us in how we should go. Man’s truth always changes; God’s truth never changes. God’s Word restores, gives us wisdom, joy, and enlightenment. His Word leads us to fear Him with reverential trust. What He says is always true and dependable. God’s Word is the sweetest treasure for those who love Him. His law is a tutor, pointing us to Christ. His Word gives us both warning and reward. And now we have the Living Word, God the Son, living out the holiness of God FOR US! He purged our sins, bringing us to God (Heb. 1:1-3). Let us, like Jesus, live by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God (Matt. 4:4). Amen.

**QUESTIONS**:

1. Thomas Watson said, “The Scripture is the compass by which the rudder of our will is to be steered…” Why did God give man free will? His Word will steer our will, if we let it. Why do we sometimes not let His Word steer our will?
2. Verse 7: How does God’s Word restore your soul?
3. Verse 8: When has God’s Word brought you joy or comfort?
4. Verse 11: I doubt that the reward mentioned in this verse has anything to do with money. What type of reward does David have in mind here?
5. Verses 13-14. I call presumptuous, deliberate sins IDOLS. Read what God has to say about idols in Exod. 20:3-6. Let us each examine the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts, and ask the Holy Spirit to examine us, too.
6. What about God is revealed in Scripture (special revelation) that cannot be made clear in creation (natural revelation)? Be specific.

“Crown Him with Many Crowns” (Bridges)

1. Crown Him with many crowns,
The Lamb upon His throne;
Hark! How the heav’nly anthem drowns
All music but its own!
Awake, my soul and sing
Of Him Who died for thee,
And hail Him as thy matchless King
Through all eternity.
2. Crown Him the Lord of life!
Who triumphed o’er the grave,
Who rose victorious in the strife
For those He came to save.
His glories now we sing,
Who died, and rose on high,
Who died eternal life to bring,
And lives that death may die.
3. Crown Him the Lord of heav’n!
One with the Father known,
One with the Spirit through Him giv’n
From yonder glorious throne,
To Thee be endless praise,
For Thou for us hast died;
Be Thou, O Lord, through endless days
Adored and magnified.