

# Psalm 19 – Scripture, Music, And Literature

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- **The glory of God (1-6)**
  - **Glory: Beauty made manifest**
- **The law of God (7-11)**
- **What these two engender in you and me (12-14)**

# Psalm 19 – Scripture, Music, And Literature

- **Genesis 1: 14 - 19**
- **Romans 1: 19 - 20**
- **Psalm 19**
- **Ludwig van Beethoven**
- **Franz Joseph Haydn**
- **C.S. Lewis**

# Psalm 19 Describes The Glory Of Creation ...

- <sup>1</sup>The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands.
  - <sup>2</sup>Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they display knowledge.
  - <sup>3</sup>There is no speech or language where their voice is not heard.
  - <sup>4</sup>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,
- <sup>5</sup>which is like a bridegroom coming forth from his pavilion, like a champion rejoicing to run his course.
  - <sup>6</sup>It rises at one end of the heavens and makes its circuit to the other; nothing is hidden from its heat.

# ... And The Beauty Of His Law ...

<sup>7</sup>The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul.

The statutes of the Lord are trustworthy, making wise the simple.

<sup>8</sup>The precepts of the Lord are right, giving joy to the heart.

The commands of the Lord are radiant, giving light to the eyes.

<sup>9</sup>The fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever.

The ordinances of the Lord are sure and altogether righteous.

<sup>10</sup>They are more precious than gold, than much pure gold; they are sweeter than honey, than honey from the comb.

<sup>11</sup> By them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.

# ... And What It Means For Us

“<sup>12</sup>Who can discern his errors?

Forgive my hidden faults.

<sup>13</sup>Keep your servant also from willful sins;

May they not rule over me.

Then will I be innocent of great transgression.

<sup>14</sup>May the words of my mouth and the meditations  
of my heart

Be pleasing in your sight

O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer.”

# Psalm 19: The Glory Of Creation

- <sup>1</sup>The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands.
- <sup>2</sup>Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they display knowledge.
- <sup>3</sup>There is no speech or language where their voice is not heard.
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- In the heavens he has pitched a tent for the sun,
- <sup>5</sup>which is like a bridegroom coming forth from his pavilion, like a champion rejoicing to run his course.
- <sup>6</sup>It rises at one end of the heavens and makes its circuit to the other; nothing is hidden from its heat.

# Way Back At The Beginning ....

- Genesis 1: 14 - 19
  - “<sup>14</sup> And God said, ‘Let there be lights in the expanse of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them serve as signs to mark seasons and days and years, <sup>15</sup> and let there be lights in the expanse of the sky to give light on the earth.’ And it was so. <sup>16</sup> God made two great lights – the greater light to govern the day and the lessor light to govern the night. He also made the stars. <sup>17</sup> God set them in the expanse of the sky to give light on the earth, <sup>18</sup> to govern the day and the night, and to separate light from darkness. And God saw that it was good. <sup>19</sup> And there was evening, and there was morning – the fourth day.”

## ... And Again With Paul

- Romans 1:19-20
  - “...<sup>19</sup> since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. <sup>20</sup> For since the creation of the world God’s invisible qualities – his eternal power and divine nature – have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse.”

# Psalm 19 Has Motivated The Best

- Haydn– the cheerful Classic composer
  - “God gave me a cheerful heart, so He will surely forgive me if I serve him cheerfully.”
  - “Daily I fell on my knees and asked God for strength” (while composing *The Creation*)
- Beethoven – the storm and fury – we hear the power and authority of God
- Two very different men – but both motivated by the grandeur of Psalm 19

# From The Good News Class Musical History Desk

- Renaissance (1450-1600)
- Baroque (1600-1750)
  - Vivaldi (1678-1741)
  - Handel (1685-1759), Bach (1685-1750)
- Classical (late 18<sup>th</sup> to early 19<sup>th</sup> centuries)
  - Mozart (1756-1791)
  - Haydn (1732-1809)
  - Beethoven (1770 – 1827), Schubert (1797 – 1828)
- Romantic (mid to late 19<sup>th</sup> century)
  - Mendelssohn (1809–1847), Chopin (1810-1849), Brahms (1833-1897), Liszt (1811-1886)

# Ludwig van Beethoven



# Franz Joseph Haydn



# Haydn: Very Prolific

What compositions come to mind?

His music has cheer, beauty, logic, order, nobility, imagination, and humor

# Father Of The Symphony And String Quartet

- Symphonies – wrote over 100
  - *Farewell* (No. 45)
  - *Hunt* (No. 73)
  - *Surprise* (No. 94)
  - *Clock* (No. 101)
- String Quartets
  - *Emperor* Quartet
  - *Serenade* Quartet
- Oratorios
  - *The Creation*
  - *The Seasons*
- Mass No. 9 in D Minor – *Nelson Mass*

# Haydn's *The Creation*

- Lived 1732-1809
- Written in 1799 after hearing Handel's *The Messiah*
  - His friend gave him a Bible and said: “There, take that, and begin at the beginning.”
  - Passages from
    - Genesis
    - Psalms
    - Milton's Paradise Lost

# Haydn's *The Creation*

- “There are but few contented and happy individuals here below; everywhere grief and care prevail; perhaps your labor may one day be the source from which the weary and worn, or the person burdened with affairs, may derive a few moments of rest and refreshment.”
  - Haydn to a group of musicians who were to perform *The Creation*

# The Creation: Part 1

- Scene 1: And God created the heaven and the earth
- Scene 2: And God created the firmament
- Scene 3: And God said: Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together
- **Scene 4: And God said: Let there be lights in the firmament of heaven**

# The Creation: Part 2

- Scene 1: And God said: Let the waters bring forth
- Scene 2: And God said: Let the earth bring forth
- Set of recitatives by one of a trio of angels followed by a chorus
  - Uriel
  - Raphael
  - Gabriel

# Recitative (Genesis 1:14,16)

And God said:

Let there be lights

In the firmament of heaven

To divide the day from the night,

And to give light upon the earth;

And let them be for signs and for seasons,

And for days, and for years.

He made the stars also.

***<sup>14</sup> “And God said, ‘Let there be lights in the expanse of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them serve as signs to mark seasons and days and years ...<sup>16</sup> He also made the stars.’”***

# God Creates The Sun

- Hear the sun come into existence – the first sunrise!

# Recitative (Psalm 19:4b-5)

In splendor bright is rising now  
the sun and darts his rays;  
an amorous joyful happy spouse,  
a giant proud and glad  
to run his measured course.

***“4b 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.”***

# Recitative (Genesis 1:16-19)

With softer beams and milder light  
Steps on the silver moon  
Through silent night.  
The space immense of the azure sky  
In numerous hosts  
Of radiant orbs adorns,  
And the sons of God  
Announced the fourth day  
In song divine,  
Proclaiming thus His power.

***“<sup>16</sup>God made two great lights – the greater light to govern the day and the lesser light to govern the night.... <sup>17</sup>God set them in the expanse of the sky to give light on the earth...the fourth day.”***

# Chorus (Psalm 19:1)

The heavens are telling

The glory of God

The wonder of His works

Displays the firmament

***“<sup>1</sup>The heavens declare the glory of God;  
the skies proclaim the work of his  
hands.”***

## Trio (Psalm 19:2)

To day that is coming  
Speaks it the day;  
The night, that is gone,  
To following night

***“<sup>2</sup>Day after day they pour forth speech;  
night after night they display  
knowledge.”***

# Chorus (Psalm 19:1)

The heavens are telling

The glory of God

The wonder of His works

Displays the firmament

***“<sup>1</sup>The heavens declare the glory of God;  
the skies proclaim the work of his  
hands.”***

## Trio (Psalm 19:3-4)

In all the lands  
Resounds the word,  
Never unperceived,  
Ever understood

***“<sup>3</sup>There is no speech or language where their voice is not heard. <sup>4</sup>Their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world.”***

# Chorus (Psalm 19:1)

The heavens are telling

The glory of God

The wonder of His works

Displays the firmament

***“<sup>1</sup>The heavens declare the glory of God;  
the skies proclaim the work of his  
hands.”***

# Enter C.S. Lewis



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- Lewis must have heard The Creation prior to writing The Magician's Nephew
- Description of Aslan creating Narnia

# Let's Hear That Creation Again!

- Keep Aslan's creation of Narnia and the first Narnian sunrise in mind

# Psalm 19 Ends On A Personal Note

“<sup>12</sup>Who can discern his errors?

Forgive my hidden faults.

<sup>13</sup>Keep your servant also from willful sins;

May they not rule over me.

Then will I be innocent of great transgression.

<sup>14</sup>May the words of my mouth and the meditations  
of my heart

Be pleasing in your sight

O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer.”