

DSC Community Group
Sermon Summary, 01/15/2012

Title: "The Lord of the Storm"
Series: "Pour Out Your Heart to Him"

Text: Psalm 29
Preacher: Trent Hunter

Psalm 29 is a nature psalm and a psalm of praise (cf. nature psalms, Psalm 8, 19). Here God's glorious power is revealed in a great storm and thunder and lightning are the clothes of his great voice.

1. The Lord is in Heaven (1-2)

- If God is anywhere He is in heaven, Psalm 115; Isaiah 6.
- Ascribe = recognize/reflect back to. He is the God of all glory and of all strength. Nothing is added to Him for our praise, as He needs nothing. Worship = bow down/submit/humble oneself.

Response: Ascribe Glory!

- The angels are called to ascribe glory to God, but that's only because David's praise and the praise of God's people could not possibly be enough. It is a call to us as well.

2. The Lord is in The Storm (3-9)

- Listen to the storm: it is the sound of the voice of the Lord. "Voice of the Lord" is repeated 7 times.
- Watch the storm's path: It moves north to south, from the Mediterranean Sea to the desert of Kadesh.
- Watch the storm's destruction: It breaks cedars, which could be 40 feet around at the base. It shakes the mountains at Lebanon and Mt. Hermon so they look like they are dancing. Who can make a mountain do that? The storm scares the deer into labor.

Response: Cry, "Glory!"

- Crying "Glory!" says, "I am unworthy!", "You are great and sovereign and supreme!"
- "The sentimentalist says 'One is nearer God's heart in a garden'; more realistic, the Bible affirms we are also nearer his heart in a hurricane."

3. The Lord is on His Throne (10)

- He is enthroned over the flood: This is the Genesis flood, which means he is enthroned in judgment. Storms are part of God's curse on creation.
- The Lord is a king forever: He is a sitting king. He is not restless. His throne is forever. In other words, we are not the center of the universe, He is. We should not get Psalm 115:3 upside-down and say, "I am on the earth and I do all that I please!"

Response: Acknowledge His Rule

- Contra Baal, the storm God, who was the storm, God is over all nature. We don't worship Baal, but we will want to assign God's power to things: crystals, governments, the earth itself.
- But this is not the whole story...

4. The Lord is for His People (11)

Response: Ask for His Blessing

- Ask for the blessing of peace. Find it in Christ. Luke 2:14; Mark 4:39; Isaiah 9:6; John 20;
- Ask for the blessing of power. Find it in Christ. Ephesians 1:19-20; 3:16

Sample Questions

- The storm here is a picture of God's power in and behind even the most threatening of circumstances. Are there any circumstances you've known that could be described with the imagery of this storm?
- In what sense is a real storm the judgment of God, and how is this often misrepresented by Christians in the wake of natural catastrophes? (hint: we never know what God may specifically be doing and should not speak for Him!)
- How does God ultimately answer the prayer of Psalm 29:11?
- This display of God's power is an encouragement in our fight against sin and in our prayers for the lost. How so? How have we known Christ to be our strength and peace personally?