Repeat: **Psalms Greatest Hits – How Big Is Your God?**

**As I get older, I become less cooler – my driving changes – my clothes change – things I think are fun change – ears & nose get bigger and my lips get smaller – my hair gets thinner – my stomach gets bigger.**

**World’s strongest man competition, “You can do that Dad?” Uh sure. Dad used to be the hero at home. It’s gone from. “Dad!” to, “Oh, Dad?”**

**150 songs, 400 years, 12-17 authors – Jesus iPod play list – a shuffle through the best - This week’s shuffle is about our big God.**

**How Big Is Your Dad, and how does he reveal himself?**

**When we are face to face with life, how big is God? Whatever is coming at you (struggles, sickness, habits, fears) – Our dad is bigger!**

**Psalm 19 reveals - the Two Big Books of God:**

**Natural revelation (creation) – Divine Revelation (Scripture).**

**One brings only condemning knowledge - The other, saving knowledge**

**Book One - Psalm 19:1 (For the director of music. A psalm of David.) 1 The heavens (the universe) declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork. (the sun, moon, stars, clouds – the majesty) 2 Day to day pours out speech, and night to night reveals knowledge. 3 There is no speech, nor are there words, whose voice is not heard. (the voice of creation) 4 Their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. (CS Lewis, The Magician's Nephew, Aslan - the song of creation) In them he has set a tent for the sun, (David is poetically calling the night a tent – dwelling place) 5 which comes out (in the morning) like a bridegroom leaving his chamber, and, like a strong man, runs its course with joy. (like men in their prime – the sun declares the glory of God) 6 Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them, and there is nothing hidden from its heat.**

**DAVID’S 3 CONCLUSIONS REGARDING HOW BIG THE FATHER IS**

**He first starts with**

**\*\*\*The Creation of God - declares His Glory!**

**David is trying to tell us how God is big – the Heavens scream his glory. Don’t go through life and miss the song of creation.**

**God is not creation, in creation, or of creation. All is not God. Pantheism. God is separate, distinct, and with creation – Gen 1.**

**Isaiah 40:12 Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, or with the breadth of his hand marked off the heavens? Who has held the dust of the earth in a basket, or weighed the mountains on the scales and the hills in a balance? 13 Who has understood the mind of the Lord, or instructed him as his counselor? 14 Whom did the Lord consult to enlighten him, and who taught him the right way? Who was it that taught him knowledge or showed him the path of understanding? 15 Surely the nations are like a drop in a bucket; they are regarded as dust on the scales; he weighs the islands as though they were fine dust. / 21 Do you not know? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood since the earth was founded? 22 He sits enthroned above the circle of the earth, and its people are like grasshoppers. He stretches out the heavens like a canopy, and spreads them out like a tent to live in. / 28 Do you not know? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. 29 He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. 30 Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; 31 but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.**

**We often grow up with such a small image of God – He’s sitting in every room or on a throne up there. He got lonely and created things – and is not chilling with the angels: the big guy - the boss man – that upstairs - the landlord. What a small view of God.**

**God is not like you and me – He is the LORD of all – holding all.**

**Jesus is this very God in the flesh – Colossians 1:16 For by him (Jesus) all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. 17 And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together.**

**Think about this, if we could travel at the speed of light (186,000 miles a second – 671 mil MPH – ) (Our space shuttle only goes 20,000 MPH)**

**But going the speed of light - it would take: .11 seconds to go around the earth - (Moon – 240,000 miles away) 1.3 seconds to go to the moon - 8.3 minutes to go to the sun - 13.7 days to go to Pluto (over 600,290 years at 65mph) – Alpha Centauri (closest of all the visible stars) 4.3 years to go to - (Every light you see in the sky is the seeing the past – it left 4.3 years ago to see it) – at the SOL just to cross our little galaxy it would take 100,000 yrs.**

**How big is the universe – we are told there are 125 bill galaxies. 1,250,000,000,000,000,000 (1 quintillion, 250 quadrillion) years to reach the end of the known universe Mind blowing!**

**\*Yet Isaiah says it’s figurately barely the width of his hands. Psalm/Isaiah asks - who else do you know that holds the galaxies in his hand?**

**God is big – have you forgotten? We get wrapped up in our little world – we package God so neatly – Psalm 19 shouts God is BIG!**

**Great piece of art (pic) – is this just a random drop of paints or a spilled bucket of mud… the beauty shouts to us about its creator. To get a picture in our head… the sky, the clouds, stars, nature…**

* **A creation always reveals something about its creator**

**What can we learn about God from creation?**

**God is great, Holy, intentional, good, personal, loving, peace-filled, giver of hope, one of justice, merciful**

**Psalm 19:1 "The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands."**

**David, pondering God’s awesomeness, says in - Psalm 8:1 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 look at 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? With all this, it amazes me that God cares about us.**

**Art (artists) speaks - it speaks about its creator – the age, care, attention, imagination, the love – even in these, we see something about its creator – the person is gifted and intentional. Want to know something about my God – look outside – day or night…**

**Back to - Psalm 19:7 The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple; 8 the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes; 9 the fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever; the rules of the LORD are true, and righteous altogether. 10 More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb. 11 Moreover, by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.**

**Not only did God give us nature to shout to us, but he gave us**

**\*\*\*The Word of God - declares His Glory!**

**David – I look around us and see how awesome and big God is and rejoice that He gave us a love letter about life, love, and eternity.**

**Psalm 19:7 The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple; 8 the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes; 9 the fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever; the rules of the Lord are true, and righteous altogether. 10 More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb. 11 Moreover, by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.**

**This big God has given us His word that is: Ten glorious statements:**

**7 The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul;**

**► Perfect – lacks nothing (yrs, authors, sufficient) Revives.**

**7. the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple;**

**► Trustworthy – you can stake your life on it (proven) Wise.**

**8 the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart;**

**► Right – always straight, upright, reliable = Brings joy.**

**the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes;**

**► Good – pure in motive – not twisted. Opens eyes.**

**9 the fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever;**

**► Holy – righteous and eternal. Still applies!**

**the rules of the LORD are true, and righteous altogether.**

**► Faithful – will not disappoint or let you down. Reliable.**

**10 More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold;**

**► Treasure – greater than any other pursuit!**

**10 sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb.**

**► Satisfying – more fulfilling than any other pleasure.**

**11 Moreover, by them is your servant warned;**

**► Safety – follow it and you will avoid great regret/heartache**

**11 in keeping them there is great reward.**

**► Reward – the result is joy and eternal life!**

**We often look at God’s Word and we try to shape it to fit us - picking and choosing what is convenient, and trying to explain it away. Making excuses. A pasted-together Bible has no power - and often dangerous.**

**If this big God of creation has said this - maybe I am the one to change, and this is right. If God is able to breathe life into creation, He is able to give us a trustworthy love letter.**

**\*\*\* A loving Creator both warns and rewards His creation**

**His WordThis is full of warnings to protect us… (Avoid this, keep from this)**

* **David is declaring… I get it – it is to warn me out of love**

**His Word is full of rewards for those who live it…**

* **In this life and the one to come…**

**David sings NATURE – the WORD declares God’s awesomeness**

**Then tell us the proper response of MANKIND – to His glory**

**Psalm 19:12 Who can discern his (own/man's) errors? (Who has the power to know everything about me – things I even forget?) Declare me innocent from hidden faults. (Who can forgive me of my deepest secret sins?) 13 Keep back your servant also from presumptuous (willful, deliberate) sins; let them not have dominion over me! (Who can retrain sin, so it won’t overtake me?) Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression. (Who cleanses and empowers us to walk upright before you and others?)**

**(he ends with a famous verse) 14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.**

**The answer to all these is no one but the LORD God.**

**He alone is HOLY, and he alone sees all things. He knows my sin, and he alone has the power to forgive me.**

**\*\* My proper response: LORD, I need your grace!**

**He sees God’s glory and, in response, sees his sin.**

**Truth is - This big, glorious Holy God will judge all sin.**

**His perfect nature conflicts with our selfishness**

**Rom 1:18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth. 19 For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. 20 For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse.**

**That is the reason for the cross – God did not have a baby, then send him to earth to save us (son means physical image, not offspring). Jesus is not a creation, but God in the flesh.**

**That’s why he says things like - you see me, you’ve seen the Father…**

**That is why Trinity is vital and active in and for salvation.**

**Prophets and the Word tell of God, but only God could reveal God.**

**The awesome, limitless, timeless, invisible God – The WORD, became a man - Jesus (God himself) paid the price for the sins of creation on a sinner's cross – so that we might know the Father again.**

**He ends with this - Psalm 19:14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer. (This is a confession of surrender to the LORD.)**

**I surrender to my (it’s more than knowing about it’s personal)**

**…my ROCK (unmovable strength and hope) and Redeemer (forgiver of sins). To redeem is to set free from slavery.**

**\*\* My proper response: You are worthy of my thoughts and pursuits.**

**Father when I think of your wonder, when I think of the price paid, when I grasp a measure of your grace and mercy - All I can do is give you my words, my thoughts, my actions and – my life to you.**

**Mark 12:30 - And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. 31 The second is this: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.”**

**May my life please you - How I treat others, my family, spouse, parents, friends, co-workers, my family, my friends, my neighbors, strangers… reflect my love for you.**

**Comes down to this: My dad can beat up your dad… but he chose instead to give his life for you and your dad.**

**How big is your God?**