

Studies in Psalms by John T Polk II For The Fellowship Room

Psalm 104

2/7/13

Vs. 1 regards the Greatness of God;

Vs. 2-30 describe the powerful orderliness of God's Creation;

Vs. 31-35 show the effect of God upon an honest soul.

Though not named, David may easily be associated with this Psalm by its style of writing. The emphasis is upon the subject of the Psalm, and not the writer. Let nothing be said to distract us from the awesome God who "created the heavens and the earth" (Genesis 1:1). He is "the living God, who made the heaven, the earth, the sea, and all things that are in them" (Acts 14:15).

Verse 1: (Genesis 1:1) God is "very great," "clothed with honor and majesty," and yet "my soul" may "bless the LORD." The greatness of God doesn't exceed the worth of each soul.

Verses 2-30: This is a recounting of the 24-hour days of the Creation in Genesis 1:1-2:3.

- DAY 1: (Genesis 1:2-5) God who "is light" (1 John 1:5) begins his Creation with "heavens," "upper chambers," "clouds," "wind" (verses 2-3) or "without form and void" (Genesis 1:2-5). "Angels" work as "spirits," or winds (verse 4) is quoted in Hebrews 1:7.
- **DAY 2**: (Genesis 1:6-8) The "foundations of the earth" (verse 5) cannot "be moved forever," meaning the destruction of the earth is NOT within the power of mankind!
- DAY 3: (Genesis 1:9-13) Though the mountains were covered with "the deep" (verse 6), God's word made the "dry land appear" and set the boundaries of the oceans to keep land dry (verses 7-9). However, vegetation, and later, animals, are continually watered by "the springs" which "flow among the hills" (verses 10-13). That vegetation produces "food from the earth" (verses 14-18) which provides for animals and "for the service of man" (Acts 14:15-17).
- DAY 4: (Genesis 1:14-19) The 24-hour cycle of Creation days is set by "two great lights: the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night." The "moon for seasons" and the "sun" for each day (verses 19-23) will govern lifecycles for the animals who will hunt and humans who will work by day, when they are created later that Creation week.
- **DAY 5**: (Genesis 1:20-25) The "great and wide sea" would be filled with "living things both great and small" (**verses 24-26**) and later used by humans for "the ships" to "sail about."

All Scriptures and comments are based on the New King James Version, unless otherwise noted.



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- **DAY 6**: (Genesis 1:24-31) Every living creature, including mankind, depend upon God for their "food in due season" (**verses 27-30**). God, through His Creation, provides what humans "gather in;" through His opened hand of blessing, humans are "filled with good;" because of His interaction, humans may be "troubled" at His displeasure; by God's rule, when breath leaves the body, it returns to dust; by God's Spirit, inspired humans have left God's Holy Word to instruct in the way of renewal.
- DAY 7: (Genesis 2:1-3) When God "rested" on the seventh day of Creation, He called attention to the need for meditation and worship because of His tremendous power. He would later "sanctify" for the Jews/Israelites the seventh day of each week for a "sabbath" (meaning *rest*) in Exodus 16 by giving them "manna" for their wilderness wandering.

Psalm 104:31-32 reflect upon the God of heaven and earth who should be held in highest esteem. The honest heart will

- "Sing to the LORD as long as I live" (verse 33);
- Have "meditation in the LORD" (verse 34);
- Eagerly anticipate God's Judgment that will rid eternal life of "the wicked" (verse 35).