

## **Psalm 8 – Bible Study Notes** **Praise God for Who He Is and What He Does**

Background context: The author and historical context of the writing is unknown. However, this psalm does exemplify the traits of a hymn.

Outline Structure:

- I. Praise the Lord for who He is (*vv. 1-2, 9*)
  - A. Subject of the song (*vv. 1a, 9*)
  - B. General revelation of God (*v. 1b*)
  - C. God seeks the heart of a child (*v. 2*)
- II. Praise the Lord for what He does (*vv. 3-8*)
  - A. The wonder of man vs. splendor of nature (*vv. 3-4*)
  - B. Man chosen as exclusive creation of all nature (*vv. 5-8*)

### **Praise the Lord for who He is (*vv. 1-2, 9*)**

Verses 1a & 9 – the subject of the song.

This is a song of praise.

Praises God's:

- ... Majesty;
- ... Glory;
- ... Authority.

Verse 1b – general revelation of God.

God and His glory are revealed in nature.

Nature offers evidence of a creator.

Nature is God's way of showing He exists.

God's glory surpasses the creation.

<b>Life Question</b>
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How does nature show us God exists?
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Verse 2 – God seeks the heart of a child.

Childlike attributes God seeks include:

- Absolute trust;
- Complete faith;
- Humble hearts;
- Dependent lives.

### **Praise the Lord for what He does (*vv. 3-8*)**

Verses 3-4 – the wonder of man vs. splendor of nature.

David observes God's work and all it includes.

Contrast of nature vs. man.

Nature is large... man is small.

Nature encompasses man... man exists within nature.

Verses 5-8 – man chosen as exclusive creation of all nature.  
Man is selected to rule over nature.  
Man is placed above all the rest of creation.

**Life Question**

Why did God choose man out of all His creation to rule over the rest of nature?

We don't know why... only that God chose man.

Man differs from nature because:

- God Himself breathed life into man;
- Man is created in the image of God;
- Man chose to sin;
- Man is given forgiveness, grace, mercy, salvation.

**Life Question**

What, specifically, can you do to praise God every day over the next week... month... year... whole life?