

February 22, 2026

“The World, the Word, and the Worshiper”

Psalm 19

Pastor Austin Hamrick



Did you know that God reveals Himself to you daily? In Psalm 19, David explained how the Lord reveals Himself predominantly in two ways—through creation and His Word. God’s voice compelled David to respond by having him recognize his own sinful condition. Do you recognize God’s voice?

1. **Psalm 19:1-14** – “[1] *The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament shows His handiwork. [2] Day unto day utters speech, and night unto night reveals knowledge. [3] There is no speech nor language where their voice is not heard. [4] Their line has gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them He has set a tabernacle for the sun, [5] which is like a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, and rejoices like a strong man to run its race. [6] Its rising is from one end of heaven, and its circuit to the other end; and there is nothing hidden from its heat. [7] The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple; [8] the statutes 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 judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether. [10] More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb. [11] Moreover by them Your servant is warned, and in keeping them there is great reward. [12] Who can understand his errors? Cleanse me from secret faults. [13] Keep back Your servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me. Then I shall be blameless, and I shall be innocent of great transgression. [14] Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Your sight, O LORD, my strength and my Redeemer.*”
2. The speech of the world
  - a. **Psalm 19:1-4** – “[1] *The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament shows His handiwork. [2] Day unto day utters speech, and night unto night reveals knowledge. [3] There is no speech nor language where their voice is not heard. [4] Their line has gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them He has set a tabernacle for the sun.*”
  - b. The heavens, or the firmament
    - i. The heavens
      1. The psalmist is not using “heavens” to refer to the place where God dwells, but to refer to the sky or atmosphere.
    - ii. The firmament

1. The word “*firmament*” comes from the Latin **firmamentum**.
  2. “*Firmament*” is a poetic way of again saying “sky” or “atmosphere.”
- c. The personification of nature
- i. The psalmist uses words like “*declare*,” “*speech*,” “*language*,” “*words*,” and “*voice*.”
    1. “*Line*” is translated as “*voice*” in the NIV (verse 4).
    2. The word “*line*,” or **qāv** in the Greek, figuratively means “musical string.”
    3. Creation is God’s musical instrument with which He reaches out to mankind.
  - ii. Nature’s “*voice*” is how David shows that creation is evidence of a Creator.
    1. As a painting implies a painter, and a building implies a builder, so the complexity of life implies a Designer.
    2. **Psalm 14:1a** – “*The fool says in his heart, ‘There is no God.’*” (NIV)
    3. **DISCUSS**: Do you behave as if you believe there is no God? How does an awareness of God affect how you live?
  - iii. While language barriers have existed since the Tower of Babel, nature speaks a universal language proclaiming that there is a God.
    1. **Romans 1:20** – “*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.*” (1984 NIV)
    2. **DISCUSS**: What is one aspect of God that you can see revealed in nature?
  - iv. Nature is a gift.
    1. Life and every sustaining breath is the gift of God.
    2. **Psalm 8:4** – “*What is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that You visit him?*”
3. The supremacy of the Word
- a. **Psalm 19:7-11** – “[7] *The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple; [8] the statutes 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 judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether. [10] More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb. [11] Moreover by them Your servant is warned, and in keeping them there is great reward.*”
  - b. Synonyms for the Word of God

- i. The psalmist uses words like “law,” “testimony,” “statues,” and “commandment,” to speak of the Word of God.
    - c. The fear of the Lord
      - i. Fear of God is about having a healthy reverence and awe of the Lord.
      - ii. **Psalm 19:9a** – “*The fear of the Lord is clean.*”
        - 1. This kind of fear is “clean” because it should motivate us to live in holiness and purity.
        - 2. God’s Spirit molds us into the image of the Son as we sit with Him, meditating on His Word.
        - 3. **Hebrews 4:12** – “*For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.*” (NIV)
        - 4. **Romans 2:4** – “*The kindness of God leads you to repentance.*” (NASB)
        - 5. **DISCUSS:** Do you possess a healthy fear of God? How can you develop a proper view of the Lord?
    - d. The judgments of the Lord
      - i. **Psalm 19:9b** – “*The judgments of the LORD are true and righteous.*”
      - ii. The world says truth is subjective, but God says truth is objective.
        - 1. God calls us to conform to His standards over the culture’s.
        - 2. When we submit to God’s Word, it goes better for us.
        - 3. We must submit our sexuality, marriages, and lives to God.
        - 4. **DISCUSS:** How does knowing God’s judgments are true and righteous help us conform to Him instead of to the world? What area of your life needs to hear and believe God’s truth?
    - e. The role of God’s Word
      - i. The Word of God convicts us.
        - 1. God’s Word brings both conviction and kindness, leading us to be broken over our sin.
        - 2. But God is eager to forgive the repentant and restore us so that we may live for Him.
      - ii. The Word of God is like “honey,” encouraging and healing us.
      - iii. The Word of God washes us (**Ephesians 5:26**).
      - iv. **DISCUSS:** How has God used His Word to convict, encourage, and wash you?
4. The sin of the worshiper
  - a. **Psalm 19:12-14** – “[12] *Who can understand his errors? Cleanse me from secret faults. [13] Keep back Your servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me. Then I shall be blameless, and I shall be*

*innocent of great transgression. [14] Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Your sight, O LORD, my strength and my Redeemer.”*

b. Unintentional sins

- i. Some sins are “*secret faults*,” meaning that they are unintentional.
  1. The word “*secret*,” or **sātar** in the Greek, means “to hide.”
  2. **Psalm 19:12a** – “*How can I know all the sins lurking in my heart?*” (NLT)
  3. **Psalm 19:12b** – “*Cleanse me from my secret faults.*” (CSB)
- ii. The psalmist uses the word **sātar** not to refer to sins hidden from others, but to sins hidden from the sinner.
  1. This is why other translations say “*unaware*” instead of “*secret*.”
  2. All of us have blind spots that lead us to break the heart of God without realizing it.
  3. Our hearts are desperately wicked, so even our good actions can be influenced by evil motives (**Jeremiah 17:9**).
  4. **DISCUSS**: Do you ask the Lord to help you see your blind spots? How has God brought your secret faults to your attention?
- iii. Ignorance does not excuse sin or remove our accountability.
  1. By meditating on God’s righteousness, we can see ourselves more clearly.

c. Intentional sins

- i. Some sins are “*presumptuous*,” meaning “a failure to observe the limits.”
  1. Sometimes, we deliberately do what we know is wrong and bad for us.
  2. “*Presumptuous*” in the Greek is **zēd**, meaning “proud or arrogant.”
  3. **DISCUSS**: What are some sins you know you should not do that you continue to fall into? Why do you continue to engage in these sins?
- ii. David prayed for sin not to “*have dominion*” over him.
  1. Dominion, or **māšal** in the Greek, means to “rule or reign over.”
  2. David knew that sin’s endgame is to be our master.
  3. **Romans 6:12a** – “*Do not let sin reign in your mortal body.*”
- iii. Sin lies and destroys, but God brings salvation.
  1. Sin promises much and delivers little. Like an anglerfish, sin lures people in with a shiny bait, but it is only fun for a season (**Hebrews 11:25**).
  2. David looked forward to a day when the Messiah would come and reign over us, crushing sin’s dominion.

3. Jesus Christ died on the cross to save all who would believe in Him and broke the power of sin in their lives.
4. Those who put their faith in Jesus' death and resurrection to atone for their sins have God as their ruler rather than sin.

d. Repentance

- i. The Greek for "repent" is **metanoieia**, meaning "to change your mind and attitude."
- ii. Those who turn to God from idols do not need to live under the dominion of sin any longer.
  1. We are not slaves to sin and need not let sin reign over us any longer.
  2. We are free from sin, not free to sin.
  3. **Galatians 5:16-17** – "[16] So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. [17] For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want." (NIV)
  4. **Galatians 6:8** – "The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction; the one who sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life." (1984 NIV)
  5. **Romans 6:23** – "The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."
  6. A wage is something you earn.
  7. **DISCUSS:** Who sits on the throne of your heart? How does this free you or impede your freedom?
- iii. If we do sin, we should repent and turn to God.
- iv. Becoming a Christian does not mean we no longer sin, but we should be sinning less.

e. A united heart

- i. **Psalms 19:14** – "Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Your sight, O LORD, my strength and my Redeemer."
- ii. David wanted the "words" of his mouth and the "meditation" of his heart to be aligned with God's heart.
  1. The "words" are about our public lives, and the "meditations" are about our private lives.
  2. David wanted to consistently follow the Lord.
  3. **Psalms 86:11b** – "Unite my heart to fear Your name."
  4. If people can spot a poser, how much more can God?
  5. **DISCUSS:** Is the psalmist's prayer your prayer? How has God been helping you live with an undivided heart?

- iii. David wanted the Lord to sanctify him.
  1. God has done the sanctifying work on the cross.
  2. D.L. Moody said, "Some people think God does not like to be troubled with our constant coming and asking. The way to trouble God is not to come at all."
  3. **1 John 1:9** – *"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."*

\* Unless noted, all Scriptures quoted are from the New King James (NKJV)