



Psalm 8, 33

2. In v. 1 David tells God His name is majestic. Are there people today that you would describe as “majestic?” What would it take to feel this about someone?

IT'S HEBREW TO ME: **Majestic** OT:117 *'addiy*; wide or (generally) large; figuratively, powerful: KJV - excellent, famous, gallant, glorious, goodly, lordly, mighty one, noble” - Strong's Concordance

3. What glory do we see in “the Heavens?” (v.1) What does the study of God’s creation in the Heavens reveal about Him?
4. Who is in the Heavens to call out His glory, and where do they say His glory is? Isaiah 6:1-3
5. Think about the kind of praise children and infants make. (v. 2) What does it sound like? How eloquent? Depth of understanding? How would it compare to the praise Isaiah saw from question 3? (Compare Jesus’ words in Matt. 19:14)
6. Why does God want to display His glory? Who does He want to silence? (v.1-2)
7. How do you think the combined praise of mighty Seraphim in Heaven and nursing babies on the earth create a stronghold against God’s enemies? How could it silence them? Jesus quoted this Psalm in Matthew 21:14-16 to silence His accusers. Read the story to help answer these questions.

**For Your Information:** ““Scientists have not only seen the greatness of God’s creation in the big things he has created, like the countless stars far greater than our sun, but they have also seen it in little things, in atoms and electrical particles and in the cells that make up all living creatures. The little things matter to God as well as the great...Jesus said that little children are important in God’s sight, and he took them in his arms and blessed them (Mark 10:29-31). In 8:2 the psalmist says that the faith of a little child is more powerful than those who may seem to be strong enemies opposing God’s purposes.” The truth expressed in a little child’s praise silences the enemies of God.” The Africa Bible Commentary (617)

**Applying the Word:** *Whether we sound like an angel or a crying baby our praise can drown out the attacks that the enemy sends against us. Today, every time you hear a worried, self-incriminating, or mistrustful thought, start praising God for His glory you see in creation and see if you can drown out the attacks. Write some lines of praise to prepare you for the day.*

## Day 2

### Read Psalm 8:3-9

8. What kind of work is done with brute force of one's body or large machinery and what kind of work do you do with your fingers? What did God use only His finger so make? (v.3) What does this say about His power? )See also Isaiah 40:25,26)
9. Which of all the beings God created can ask the question in v.4 to express astonishment over what God has made? What does this say about how God created us compared to everything else on the earth? How do you think God answers the question?
10. List the words that describe what God has done for mankind:
- v. 4a-
  - v.4b-
  - v.5a-
  - v.5b-
  - v.6a-
  - v.6b- (Compare Gen. 1:28)

**FYI: 8:5 lower than the angels.** Man is not, as evolutionists think, 'a little higher than the apes,' but rather 'a little lower than the angels.'" - Henry Morris

"We were made in [God's] image. As such, we are crowned with **glory and honour** (8:5b)...We have been given power of thinking, making and discovering that no animals have. Above all, because we are made in God's image (Gen 1:26), we can hear God's word and speak to Him in prayer." - The Africa Bible Commentary (617)

11. Do you feel like you have the position these verses proclaim? Read Hebrews 2:5-10; 1 Corinthians 15:25-27a, where the writers apply Psalm 8 to Jesus.

- Hebrews 2:9 - What did Jesus go through to be crowned with glory and honor? (Psalm 2:5)
  
- Hebrews 2:10 - What did Jesus accomplish for us? (See Ephesians 1:5)
  
- 1 Corinthians 15:26 - What is the last thing that will be put under Jesus' feet? (Psalm 2:6)

**FYI:** "Jesus has perfectly fulfilled God's purpose for humanity. We are restored to our true position and worth through what He has done for us."  
 - The Africa Bible Commentary (617)

**Applying the Word:** How would you answer David's question in v.4 "*What is mankind that you are mindful of him?*" from the viewpoint of the pessimist? The atheist? The agnostic? The wounded? The wealthy? The fortunate? The forgiven? The follower of Jesus? And any other voices you can think of. Which answer sounds like the one you live under? Ask God to help you find the answer He longs for you to live out.



## Psalm 8, 33

<sup>18</sup> But the eyes of the LORD are on those  
who fear him,

on those whose hope is in his  
unfailing love,

<sup>19</sup> to deliver them from death  
and keep them alive in famine.

<sup>20</sup> We wait in hope for the LORD;  
he is our help and our shield.

<sup>21</sup> In him our hearts rejoice,  
for we trust in his holy name.

<sup>22</sup> May your unfailing love be with us,  
LORD,  
even as we put our hope in you.

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**For Your Information:** "It is easy to praise the LORD when things are going well; it is far more difficult to praise the LORD in times of deprivation or danger...This is not "Praise the Lord Anyhow" as some mottos would have it; rather, it is praise to the LORD for solid reasons, and those reasons inspire greater faith and greater prayer. This is because the biblical pattern of praise always includes the reasons for the praise, and in descriptive praise psalms (as opposed to personal experience praises) those reasons are theological, that is, sound doctrine. It is in the time of difficulty that we need to rehearse who God is, what God is like, and what God has done in the past. It will strengthen our faith for the current crises."  
- Allen P. Ross

## Read Psalm 33:1-3

### Call to Praise

13. What instructions (or commands) for worship are given in verses 1-3? What attitude is to be expressed in worship? Who are the instructions directed to? v. 1-3

**IT'S HEBREW TO ME:** Several different Hebrew words for praise are used in the Psalm.

v. 1 **sing joyfully** OT: "*ranar'*"-to cry out, give a ringing cry

v. 1 **praise** OT: "*tehillhat'*"- song or hymn of praise.

v. 2 **praise** OT: "*yadah'*"-to confess, laud, praise

v. 3 **shout** OT: "*teruah'*"-shout of joy (with religious impulse) alarm, signal, sound of tempest, shout, shout or blast of war or alarm or joy

v. 8, 18 **fear** OT: "*yare'*"-to stand in awe, to fear, reverence, honor, respect

v. 8 **revere** OT: "*guwr'*"- to dread, fear, stand in awe, be afraid

v. 21 **rejoice** OT: "*samach'*"-to rejoice, gladden, make glad

14. In verse 1, the word “fitting” is also translated “beautiful”. How is it “fitting” that we should praise God? How is praise “beautiful”?

**IT'S HEBREW TO ME:** *na'veh* (33:1) “fitting”- *seemly, comely, beautiful*

15. What does a “new song” suggest? (v. 3) How do you remember new works of God in your life to praise Him for? What helps you see God in new ways? What new words can you use to express to praise to Him?

**Applying the word:** *In the first verse the writer tells us that praise is “fitting” for the upright. In other words a believer without praise is like a person who is not properly dressed for the occasion. Think about outfits you have worn that didn't fit and how you felt. Or a job that wasn't a “fit” or a group or friends that you didn't “fit” with. When has praise felt like a “fit”, and when didn't it? Do you need to get a new way to praise, a new song, like a better fitting outfit? Or do you need to push through the uncomfortable feelings of awkwardness, mistrust, or sadness and shout, sing, and praise because God is worthy?*

## Day 4

### Read Psalm 33:4-9

#### God's character and creation

16. What characteristics of the LORD are given in 33:4,5? How does that fit with what you see going on in the “earth?” (See Matthew 5:45; Acts 14:17)

**FYI:** “Although the world is filled with evil and with people who have no thought of God (Ps. 14), believers must look beyond the apparent confusion of the world to see God's goodness - the goodness that manifest itself every time the sun rises, a bird sings...Out of His goodness, God holds together the earth and provides for the sustenance of all people. One day God's goodness will prevail over all evil.”  
- The Nelson Study Bible (908)

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17. In vv.5,18 and 22 the word for “love” is the Hebrew word “cheched”. It describes the covenantal, loyal, enduring love of God. It is used 128 times in the Psalms. Read through the verses below where “cheched” is found to help you gain an understanding of the depth of God’s love for you. Circle any verses that you need to embrace and impact your thinking.

- **Psalm 17:7**-Show me the wonders of your great love, you who save by your right hand those who take refuge in you from their foes.
- **Psalm 31:7**-I will be glad and rejoice in your love, for you saw my affliction and knew the anguish of my soul.
- **Psalm 32:10**-Many are the woes of the wicked, but the Lord’s unfailing love surrounds the one who trusts in him.
- **Psalm 36:7**-How priceless is your unfailing love, O God! People take refuge in the shadow of your wings.
- **Psalm 42:8**-By day the Lord directs his love, at night his song is with me—a prayer to the God of my life.
- **Psalm 63:3**-Because your love is better than life, my lips will glorify you.
- **Psalm 86:5**-You, Lord, are forgiving and good, abounding in love to all who call to you.
- **Psalm 89:2**-I will declare that your love stands firm forever, that you have established your faithfulness in heaven itself.
- **Psalm 94:18**-When I said, “My foot is slipping,” your unfailing love, Lord, supported me.
- **Psalm 100:5**-For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.
- **Psalm 103:11**-For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him;
- **Psalm 117:2**-For great is his love toward us, and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever. Praise the Lord.

18. Circle “**word**” and “**spoke**” in verses 4-9. What do you learn about God’s word and what happens when He speaks? (Compare Genesis 1:3,6,9...)

***Digging Deeper***

*What else do the following teach about God’s creative work?*

John 1:3

Colossians 1:16-17

Hebrews 1:2; 11:3



**Read Psalm 33:10-18****God's sovereignty**

19. When you read the newspaper, what do you find the “plans of the nations and the purposes of people” often are? (33:10)

20. How do man's plans compare to God's plans and purposes? 33:10

- What are the qualities of God's plans and purposes? 3:11 (*See also Proverbs 19:21; Isaiah 25:1, 28:29; Jeremiah 29:11 where the same Hebrew words for “plans” and “purposes” are used.*)

**IT'S HEBREW TO ME: (33:10,11) *plans (NIV)*** etsah“-counsel, advice, purpose.  
***purposes (NIV)***“machashabah“-thoughts, device, plan, purpose

21. What is the key to a successful government? 33:12

22. Where is mankind's vantage point to see and understand what is going on? 33:14  
Where is God's vantage point? 33:13 (Compare Isaiah 40:22) *Circle the word “all” in vv. 13-15.*

- How does this affect our understanding of what God is doing?

23. Note the 3 words used to describe God's activity in 33:13-14. By using 3 different words to explain God's observation the writer is showing that God is not an indifferent observer. What do these words convey about His interest in us?

**IT'S HEBREW TO ME: “looks”** *nabat* - to look, regard, pay attention to, consider.  
“sees” *ra-ah* - to see, observe, consider, look at, give attention to, discern, distinguish.  
“watches/looks out:” *shagach* - to gaze, stare.

**FYI: 33:13-15** “God sees all; He is omnipresent...God fashions all; He is omnipotent...God understands all; He is omniscient.”  
- Henry Morris

24. What do kings or warriors count on to save them? 33:16-17

- What do those that fear God count on to save them? 33:18

### Psalm 33:18-22

#### Trusting in God

25. Use the chart to list how the psalmist describes the person who is following God.

Verse	Character of faithful follower that "The eyes of the Lord are on"
33:18a	<i>Fear Him</i>
33:18b	
33:20	
33:21a	
33:21b	
33:22	

26. Use the chart to list what God does for His followers.

Verse	Character and work of God
33:19a	<i>Delivers them</i>
33:19b	
33:20b	
33:22a	

**Applying the word:** The writer ends stating that they "wait in hope for the Lord." It gives the impression that they may be living with some tension. The writer also says God is their help and shield, which implies they may be in danger. But he explains how even in tense and dangerous times they can still rejoice (v.21) because they trust Him. Think of things that you are fearing or anxious about, then begin to praise God using lines from this Psalm to declare who He is and what He has done. Try singing or shouting them, or playing an instrument as you proclaim them. Let your heart rejoice.