

Gospel and the Song of Creation

I. 5 Statements – Awake, Arise, Count it all joy, No eye has seen, the eyes of the Lord.

Is. 51:17 **Wake** yourself, **wake** yourself,

Is. 60:1 **Arise**, shine, for your light has come, and the **glory** of the LORD has risen upon you.

Jas 1:2 **Count** it all joy,

1Cor 2:9 “What no eye..., ear..., heart ...,

God has prepared for those who love him”—

2Chr 16:9 The eyes of the Lord Ps 34:15 on the righteous

II. Gospel — Power to Save — Theme of Book

A. Paul — Set apart and eager

Romans 1:1 Paul, a **servant** of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, **set apart** for the **gospel of God**,... 3 concerning his Son,... 5 through whom **we** have **received grace** and **apostleship to bring about** the **obedience of faith** for the sake of **his name** among **all the nations**,

6 including you who are ***called to belong*** to Jesus Christ,

7 To all those in Rome who are ***loved*** by God and ***called*** to be ***saints***: **Grace** to you and **peace** from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

14 I am **under obligation** both to... 15 So I **am eager to preach the gospel** to you also who are in Rome.

B. Gospel — Power to Save

Rom. 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for **it** is the power of God for (**εἰς**) salvation **to** everyone who believes, to the **Jew** first and also to the **Greek**.

Imprisoned Philippi, chased out of Thess., smuggled out of Damascus, Berea, mocked in Athens, stoned and left for dead at Lystra, ...

POWER — to create ex nihilo; resurrection;

SALVATION — from misery, bondage, disease, broken hearts, dreams

ALL WHO BELIEVE

4:11 father of **all who believe**

10:4 end of the law for righteousness to **everyone who believes**.

10:11 **"Everyone who believes** in him will not be put to shame."...

C. Revealed Righteousness

17 For in it the **righteousness of God** is *revealed from* faith *for* faith, as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith."

RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD REVEALED— apokalypto

The **Saving ACTIVITY** — redefines the people of God

2Cor 5:21 For our sake ..., so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

God **is** righteous – **faithful** to his covenants and promises

Status **declared** by God. Sinner made righteous.

Gods' righteousness **transforms** us *from* faith *to* faith.

God justifies... *God treats sinners as if they had not been sinners at all.* Instead of treating them as *criminals*, God treats them as *children* to be loved. The essence of the gospel.

NIV- For in the gospel a **righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last,**

"Well done, good and faithful servant"

III. Wrath— Suppression of Truth — Evidence

A. Wrath against Suppression of Evidence — **The Song!**

For what you see and hear depends a good deal on where you are standing: it also depends on what sort of person you are.

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.

WRATH of GOD — Not emotional, but a disposition of indignation.

Ungodliness and unrighteousness — **suppresses** (hold down) **the truth** (alethia - a + *lanthano* - unaware, escape notice, hidden)

2Pet 3:5 For they **deliberately overlook** this fact, that the heavens existed long ago, and the earth was formed out of water and through water by the word of God

“Depart from me, I never knew you.”

Materialists. Dawkins. Oppy. Reductionism — a suppressing the song of TRUTH AND GLORY

19 For what can be known about God is **plain** to them, because God has **shown** it to them.

EVIDENT

MADE MANIFEST

C. Clear Perception of Invisible Attributes

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. (**Can be intellectually understood**)

Oxymoron — apparent contradiction. Psalm 19:1-6

CREATION SAVING ACTS

To comprehend reality, realize that the senses are inadequate to the task. The reason does not lie mainly in faulty hearing, poor

vision, or worn-out taste buds, but in the fact that **reality truly is mysterious. It carries a dimension that we are unable to fully express.**

Symbolic or Sacramental

The Church Fathers and medieval theologians understood the bread and wine of the Eucharist as the sacrament in which Christ was really present, ...they simultaneously held that...

Christ is mysteriously present in the entire created order.

Acts 17:28 **in** Him we live, move, have our being

Col 1:16 All things created through and for Him **in** Him all things consist...

Christ's sacramental presence in the Eucharist was, we might say, an intensification of his sacramental presence in the world.

LONGING FOR TRUTH GOODNESS BEAUTY

REASON CONSCIENCE IMAGINATION

INVISIBLE — ETERNAL POWER DIVINE NATURE

WITHOUT EXCUSE!

D. Dishonor, Ingratitude, Futility, and Folly

21 For although they knew God, they **did not honor** him as God or **give thanks** to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened.

22 Claiming to be wise, they became fools,

23 and **exchanged** the **glory** of the immortal God for **images** resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things. GLORY IMMORTAL for images

Naturalism - (1) t only natural causes; (2) that mental powers are late and local; and (3) that there is nothing that is divine, or sacred, or worthy of worship.

This modern scientific worldview is **boring**. A disenchanted world is **without meaning, purpose, or objective values**. There is **no deep story** that governs the cosmos or our lives. There is no Author, no play. Birth, life, death—that's it.

We **long for things the material world cannot provide**,... God and a deep spiritual reality are still there. He didn't leave. He still upholds us, even if we refuse to acknowledge him.

The **signs of transcendence are everywhere**.... experiences of beauty, communion, laughter, and love, ... help us to understand and imagine a world of deep meaning and the promise of a day when all will be set right again

III. GLORY — PARTICIPATION in CREATION

FULLNESS OF SALVATION... Holy Spirit release THE GOSPEL

Eyes to see the mystery around

Ears to hear the song of salvation

Honor God all mankind creation

Give Thanks in all things.