

Delighting in the Word

Psalm 19

Psalm Structure:
Chiastic [X]

A
B
C
B
A
Center is Focus

A / The Declaration of Creation

The heavens **declare** the glory of God,
and the sky above **proclaims** his handiwork.

Declarative Words

Notice all the language
that speaks of speaking
and proclaiming.

B / The Public Word / General Revelation

Day to day **pours out speech**,
night to night **reveals** knowledge.
There is no speech, nor are there words,
whose voice is not heard.
Their voice goes out through all the earth,
and **their words** to the end of the world.
In them he has set a tent for the sun,
which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his
chamber,
and, like a strong man, runs its course with joy.
Its rising is from the end of the heavens,
and its circuit to the end of them,
and there is **nothing hidden** from its heat.

General Revelation

Compare this section with
Psalm 8 and Romans 1.

C / God's Word, Special Revelation

- (1) **The law of the LORD** is **perfect**,
reviving the soul;
- (2) the **testimony** of the LORD is **sure**,
making wise the simple;
- (3) the **precepts** of the LORD are **right**,
rejoicing the heart;
- (4) the **commandment** of the LORD is **pure**,
enlightening the eyes;
- (5) the **fear** of the LORD is **clean**,
enduring forever;
- (6) the **rules** of the LORD are **true**,
and righteous altogether.
- (7) **More to be desired** are they than gold,
even much fine gold;
- (8) **sweeter** also than honey
and drippings of the honeycomb.
- (9) Moreover, by them is your **servant warned**;
in keeping them there is great **reward**.

Nine Reasons to Delight in the Word

These are literary couplets / Characteristics of
the Word coupled with Dramatic Results

1

It is **complete** [without fault]
...can restore our soul

2

It is **solid** [supportive]
...makes fools wise

3

It is **just** [fair, kind]
...makes our hearts glad

4

It is **faultless** [free of error]
...illuminates our eyes

5

It is **morally pure** [without fault]
...pushes us toward eternity

6

It is **dependable** [tried and true]
...makes us righteous

7

It is **valuable** [Gold = richest mineral]
...worth our investments

8

It is **sweet and pleasant** [sugar like]
...we should desire it

9

It is the source of both...
warning – potential judgement
and **reward** – potential glory

B / The Private Word / Application

Who can discern his errors?
Declare me innocent from hidden faults.
Keep back your **servant** also from presumptuous sins;
let them not have dominion over me!
Then I shall be blameless,
and innocent of great transgression.

A / The Declaration of the Psalmist

Let **the words of my mouth**
and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable in your sight,
O LORD, my **rock** and my **redeemer**.

God and his
Word have no
discernible sin

We have
sins that we
are
unaware of

Our arrogance
can lead us
towards sin
that rules us

The Word's
goal is
blamelessness
and innocence



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Delight

The Perfect Lord

Jesus Is These Things!

He delights in these things because they are what he is like and display his character.

The Fallen Ones

We are Not These Things

We ought (but sometimes don't) delight in these things because they are things we desperately need.

Nine Reasons to Delight in the Word

These are literary couplets / Characteristics of the Word coupled with Dramatic Results

COMPLETE

Image of Invisible God – Col 1:15-20
“Well pleased” – Matthew 3:17
Form of God, emptied –Phil 2:6-11

1

It is **complete** [without fault]
...can complete us

INCOMPLETE

We are growing – Phil 1:6
Our knowledge – 1 Cor 13:9-10
Nor arrived – Phil 3:12-14

SOLID

A Cornerstone – Isaiah 29:16
Rejected stone – Psalm 118:22
The Foundation – 1 Corinthians 3:11

2

It is **solid** [supportive]
...makes fools wise

WEAK

Men weak, God strong – 2 Cor 12:9
Too weak to pray – Romans 8:26
Men are dust – Psalm 103:14

JUST

Faithful and True – Rev 19:11
The Righteous and True –2 Tim 4:8
Rules Justly – 2 Sam 23:3-4

3

It is **just** [fair, kind]
...makes our hearts glad

NO JUSTICE

Wickedness not justice – Ecc 3:16
Justice has turned back– Is 59:14-15
Injustice in proverb – Prov 17:15

FAULTLESS

Without sin– Hebrews 4:12
No Sin – 2 Peter 2:22
No violence, No deceit – Isaiah 53:9

4

It is **faultless** [free of error]
...illuminates our eyes

FAULTY

All have sinned – Romans 3:23
No one on earth – Ecc 7:20
If we say.. no sin– 1 John 1:8-10

PURE

He is pure – 1 John 3:3
Purifies others – Heb 9:14

5

It is **morally pure** [without fault]
...pushes us toward eternity

CONTAMINATED

Brought forth in iniquity – Ps 51:5
Heart wicked – Jeremiah 17:9
No one righteous – Romans 3:10

DEPENDABLE

The Same Forever – Heb 13:8
Faithful – 2 Tim 2:13
No changing mind – Num 23:19

6

*It is **dependable*** [tried and true]
...makes us righteous

INCONSISTENT

Faithful men? – Prov 20:6
Don't trust men – Jer 17:5-8
Don't trust – Isaiah 2:22

VALUABLE

Precious blood – 1 Peter 1:18-19
Precious Cornerstone –Isaiah 28:16

7

*It is **valuable*** [Gold = richest mineral]
...worth our investments

LESS VALUE / but valuable

Image of God – Genesis 1:26-27
Jesus died for us – John 3:16

PLEASANT

I will give you rest – Matt 11:28-30
Messiah pleasant – Psalm 45:2

8

*It is **sweet and pleasant*** [sugar like]
...we should desire it

Desire Pleasant Things

Desire sweetness – Prov 24:13-14
Gracious words – Prov 16:24
The Sweet Scroll – Ezekiel 3:3

9

For Those Who Believe in Christ
Jesus takes their judgement for them, and pays the price...

It is the source of both...
***warning** – potential judgement*
*and **reward** – potential glory*

... And gives them a reward, salvation and sonship in Christ by grace through faith!