I. Introduction

We're back in Psalms 19. We will be here for quite a while because there is so much to glean out of here. I think it's important with the spiritual level we've reached in our church where, not that we haven't always been involved in missions in one way or another, now we're taking the personal step to take some teams out. We have a team going to Costa Rica in December, and as the Lord opens the doors, I suspect that every year when we have our year-end missions conference and put Bibles together, God will allow us to go other places and give everyone an opportunity to really be part of what He is doing around the world. When we get the chance throughout the year, and the Lord just opened the door for Chris Meyers to be here last week, I want to keep a missionary before you who can preach and share what he is doing and give you the opportunity to see his work; and hopefully, in time, to be a part of that to help him where we can.

➤ Psalms 19 Will Unlock Everything God is Doing, Has Done, & Will Do in the Future

We started Psalms 19 the last time we were together, and I told you that without a doubt it's one of the most incredible places in all the Bible. I shared that for me personally, and I will talk about it at some point through our series here, it was the place where God opened the ministry up to me. It's where I started. There is a reason for that, and I will lay all of that out for you at some point.

This Psalm will lead you to so many places throughout your Bible, and it will tie into so many other key subjects that will be endless in their understanding and application. It's an incredible gold mine of truth. From the beginning in Genesis, all the way to the end in the book of Revelation, this little passage will unlock everything that God is doing, everything that He has done, and things that He's going to do in the future. From Genesis Chapter 1 when God put Adam and Eve down in the garden in 4004 BC to where we're at today, it's just a little over 6,000 years of man's history; and then very shortly moving into the end times then on into eternity as God fulfills His overall plan.

> The Theme of the Bible is a King and His Kingdom

I showed you that Psalms 19 is a millennial Psalm doctrinally as you find it in the Bible. Prophetically, it deals with the day Christ comes back and establishes His government on planet Earth. This government will be the theme of your Bible, and it is the true golden age that is about to befall us in time. It's where God's plan now comes to full fruition, and we see what God has been doing down through the 6,000 years of man's history as He's trying to reach man getting him ready for this coming government.

The theme of the Bible is not Christ; the theme of the Bible is not salvation; the theme of the Bible is not love, although many times you're told that, and most certainly all of those are part of

the Bible; however, the theme of the Bible is the day that Jesus Christ sits down on the throne in Jerusalem and is crowned King of kings and Lord of lords. That's the day, and everything in your Bible points to that day. Psalms 19 is a reference to that day when the heavens then do declare the glory of God. It will be the key to our ability to rightly divide the word of God.

The Bible deals with two kingdoms that you must understand that become the first key division of your Bible which actually lead to all of the other divisions. Those kingdoms are the kingdom of heaven and the kingdom of God. It's taught today by almost everybody that they are the same kingdom. Anyone with a third-grade education and that can read English can see that they're not the same. The first indication that they're not the same is that they're not spelled the same.

All of this is so incredible because where we're headed here in 2025 is fast approaching this day. I'm not setting any dates or anything, but I don't know how much longer this earth can go on without going bust. It's to the place where at every corner, at every angle, and in everything you see, hear, and experience, this world is ready to go. We are standing on the threshold of this very day and soon the establishment of this kingdom.

➤ God's Total Plan from Genesis to Revelation 22 Laid Out in Two Verses

I think Isaiah 9:6-7 are the definitive two verses in the Bible that lay out completely God's plan in just two short verses. Only God and the Bible could do that. It's the key passage on the heavens declaring the glory of God and God establishing His government.

Isaiah 9:6-7. For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

7. Of the increase of [his] government and peace [there shall be] no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.

In verse 6, you have the first coming, second coming, and the millennium all in one verse. I showed you at Bible study (04/17/2025), when I showed you how you use paragraph marks in the Bible, a little about punctuation. **The punctuation in the Bible is not there by accident.** When the Holy Spirit of God had the King James translators put the King James Bible together in a perfect form, not only did He use a perfect language (English at its apex of purity at that particular point in time), but everything grammatically is spot on.

- For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: {COLON}—That's the first coming of Christ
- and the government shall be upon his shoulder: {COLON}—That's the second coming of Christ
- and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.—There's the millennium

It's all broken down for you so simply that anybody could get it. I got an email from somebody who had watched online telling me how it was insane I would teach that the colons actually

separated dispensations. I replied, "Your problem is you need a colonoscopy!" You can't get around the fact that within that verse you have the first coming, second coming, and millennium. Then in verse 7, you have eternity. It's incredible! God's total plan from Genesis to Revelation 22 laid out in two verses. That's the beauty of the Bible that God gave you. With these two verses in mind, let's read Psalms 19:1-6 again and do a quick review.

II. Psalms 19:1-6 Review

Psalms 19:1-6. The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork.

- 2. Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge.
- 3. [There is] no speech nor language, [where] their voice is not heard.
- 4. Their line is gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them hath he set a tabernacle for the sun,
- 5. Which [is] as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, [and] rejoiceth as a strong man to run a race.
- 6. His going forth [is] from the end of the heaven, and his circuit unto the ends of it: and there is nothing hid from the heat thereof.

We talked about verses one and four last time about the heavens declaring the glory of God. I showed you how that when Christ comes back, all three heavens will now declare His glory within His kingdom/government. I explained how in the Bible there are three heavens. Heaven is a very misleading word based on all the bad teaching today, and I explained all of that. We're not talking about three heavens where they all have angels. Heaven is defined in the Bible as a firmament (Genesis1:8).

The Bible says in 2 Corinthians 12 that Paul was caught up to the third heaven. That's where God's throne is. The second heaven is outer space. The first heaven is around our earth which is our own atmosphere. I also gave you Psalms 148:1-11 that clearly details each one starting with the third heaven going down through the first.

In verse 2, I showed you that day unto day and night unto night they put forth knowledge and they show forth His handywork—speech and the truth to all of the inhabitants of planet earth. It says in verse 4 that their line is gone out to the ends of the earth. There is no speech nor language where their voice is not heard. There is a worldwide knowledge of God during the millennium, His iron rule of reign, where everybody on earth knows who He is. There will be no preaching or witnessing; the Bible says that everybody is going to know Him. It's an incredible time.

We talked about verse 4 and setting a tabernacle for the sun. I showed you the Feast of Tabernacles and its connection to the second coming. It all goes back to the Old Testament and some places in the gospels where you see that the Feast of Tabernacles will always be a reference

to the second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. When you get into Zechariah 14 you'll find each year all of the inhabitants that are left, going into the millennium (God's government), are required to come up to Jerusalem to keep the Feast of Tabernacles as a memorial. The Feast of Tabernacles commemorates the second coming of Christ—the day of the Lord.

Last week we had communion, the Lord's supper, which we take in remembrance of the broken body and the shed blood of Christ.

I told you that there are two memorials in the Bible:

- 1. The Feast of Tabernacles for Israel
- 2. The Lord's Supper for the New Testament Church

➤ The Bible is a Complete Circle

The theme of the Bible, and the ultimate plan of God for His creation, will be to go through everything that we're going through in order for God to get the nation of Israel back in the proper place (they're already back in the land), and then for them to go through the tribulation, purge out the remnant of the nation of Israel, then establish His government. The Bible ends where it starts. Jesus Christ is the *Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last.* It starts in a garden with a perfect environment, and when we get out into the next government (Ezekiel 36:35), it goes back to the garden of Eden. A complete circle.

Ezekiel 36:35. And they shall say, This land that was desolate is become like the garden of Eden; and the waste and desolate and ruined cities are [become] fenced, [and] are inhabited.

Ezekiel Chapters 40-48 are the eight greatest chapters in all the Bible laying out, in every detail, this government and this kingdom. It started in a garden, and it's going to go back to a garden. Everything in between is God reaching out His hand to man, in every age and dispensation, to have him as part of that government. Life is about the choices you make; eternity will be about the choices that you make.

III. God's Handywork

Today I want to look at one of the many inspirational sides to this passage. I want us to be able to see and understand how *the heavens declare the glory of God* from another angle—from where we're at today.

I want to teach you some things about God today. I know—we all know the Lord as our personal Savior; we know God as God the Father, and that's about where it ends with most of God's people. I want to show you something about God today that is one of the most incredible things that you're ever going to find.

When God began His act of creation, we see in Genesis 1:1, *In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.* That's the original creation. It's someplace in the distant past for which there is no date given. We know when we come to verse 2 that the Bible says, *and the earth was without form, and void; and darkness [was] upon the face of the deep.* Now we know that God

does not create anything void and imperfect. Something happened. Between Genesis 1:1 and 1:2 is where the devil (Lucifer) led his rebellion against God and turned the second heaven, and God's original creation, into something formless and void through the great galactic battle that took place. For us that like Star Wars or alien movies, those galactic battles are all hitchhiked off one that took place between Genesis 1:1 and 1:2. It threw God's second heaven and the earth into a chaotic state. In a couple of weeks, I'm going to lay that out for you in detail.

In Genesis 1:2-3 And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. And God said, Let there be light: and there was light. Now we begin to see the reconstruction of God's original creation. Now we begin to see what takes place. We begin to see, as Psalms 19:1 tells us, something called His handywork. I want to show you His handywork today. It's one of the most amazing things about God and the Bible, about you and me, and about everything around us today.

Creation Reveals God's Glory

When God created everything from Genesis 1:3 (I'm sure in Genesis 1:1 also), He created it to reveal His glory. And He used Himself as the original perfect pattern. There are two key passages we will become familiar with as we go through this Psalm. I've told you many times that patterns are the key to understanding everything that God does and who He is. Right now, I'm taking you through our Patterns class once a month. It's not dealing with this particular pattern, but I'm showing how everything that we get into and every issue of life will have a pattern to it. The Bible has a pattern to it. God has a pattern to Him. Jesus has a pattern to Him. Everything in His creation has a pattern to it. When God created everything that He created, He used the pattern of Himself in everything He created. It's an incredible thing to comprehend.

There are two key verses I want to introduce you to if you are not familiar with them already.

Romans 1:20. For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen (How?), being understood by the things that are made, [even] his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:

This is an absolutely incredible verse. It tells us that you see and understand God, His eternal power and His Godhead, by the things that He made in His creation. Furthermore, it says that man, because of God's creation and the way that He did it—revealing God's glory and power through everything, is without excuse. If you're unsaved here this morning, you're without excuse. You may have never gotten a gospel tract; you may have never heard a sermon; however, you have the witness of the things that God made that declare His glory.

Colossians 1:16-17. For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether [they be] thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:

17. And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.

There are two great principles here. #1) All God created has been created by Him and for Him for the express purpose of God fulfilling His plan to establish His government and to reveal His glory through His creation. #2) Everything He created will be based on a model of He Himself, who He is, and He is the perfect pattern for His creation. You want to learn about God and who He is? Do you want to get into the deep levels and a relationship with Him? If you really want to see and understand who He is, it's in His creation.

IV. God Used the Pattern of Himself in Everything He Created

First, God is a trinity. In Genesis 1:26 God said, Let us make man in our image. Who is He speaking to? There is no one around! He's speaking to God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit—the Trinity. That's the original pattern of God—a triune trinity that makes up God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. So everything that God creates now will be built on a system of threes, after the pattern of God Himself. This will be one of the most amazing truths of all that God is doing. We have the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. A triune God—Three in One; One in Three; the One in the middle died for me. It's just that simple.

➤ The Number Three Will Always be the Total Completion of Anything Because it's Built on the Pattern of God

So man, before he is saved, is incomplete. He has a body that is stuck to his flesh (that's one) and a dead spirit (that's two). When a man gets saved, Colossians 2:10 says, *And ye are complete in him.* Why? It's because God separates your soul from your flesh and quickens your spirit. A saved man in his complete form is three things—body, soul, and spirit. The number three in your Bible will always be the total completion of anything because it's built on the pattern of God—God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

- A saved man will be, in his completed form: a body, soul, and spirit; therefore, he's three parts and complete.
- An unsaved man will be, in his uncompleted form: a body and a spirit (with his soul stuck to his body); therefore, he's only two parts and thus incomplete.

If you're going to really get your Bible down completely, let's look deeper at this. I know you don't like it when I beat you over the head with some of this stuff all of the time; however, I want you to be not only complete in your salvation, but complete in your understanding of your Bible. The Bible is built after the same pattern that everything else is, so for your Bible to be complete, it will have three applications—historical, doctrinal, and inspirational.

When you look at the kingdoms, you have the kingdom of God and the kingdom of heaven. It's incomplete—until you get Christ as the King. Now, they're complete. The complete Bible will be Old Testament, New Testament, and Christ. Every person on this planet, going back to Genesis Chapter 9, will come from either Shem, Ham, or Japheth. If you want to talk about Christ, the Lord, or Jesus, that's fine; however, if you want the complete total name of who He is,

it's the Lord Jesus Christ. He held three offices—priest, prophet, and king. Only three men in the Bible hold all three—David, Christ, and you & me.

The Bible is written in three languages—Hebrew, Greek, and Aramaic. The complete Old Testament was broken down in three sections—the law, the prophets, and the writings. The complete New Testament will also break down into three sections—the gospels, Acts, and the epistles. The Old Testament is built around three key men—Abraham, Moses, and David. The New Testament is built around three key men—Peter, James, and John. The Bible is written to three people groups—Jews, Gentiles, and the church. You cannot get away from it.

When God started His creation, He needed a perfect pattern that would bring about a perfect government, that His perfect Son could sit on, and God was the perfect pattern.

Man Makes Christianity Complicated

Have you ever noticed how complicated men make the Christian life? They do with the Christian life like they do with the Bible. They keep it out of reach, so you'll always have to come back to them. Do you want to understand the Christian life in its most basic simplest form where you don't need anything else? It comes down into three—faith, fact, and feeling. If you're saved, you've exercised faith in Christ. Now, as a Christian, you have faith in the word of God, which is the facts. When you take your faith and put it into the facts, it will produce the right feeling. You'll find God's people who get this totally out of whack. They're saved; they have faith, but they have no facts. They have faith and feelings, so they get depressed, burned out, and have emotions all over the place. Why? They're missing a part; they are not complete. Their faith has to be in the facts, and the facts will produce the feeling.

Many charismatics are saved (they have faith), but they have no facts; therefore, they have faith and feelings. Thus they are always running around with their feelings. They feel the spirit, or they feel this or that. They don't have the facts. You've got to have all three because when God designed the Christian life, He didn't make it complicated, He made it after a pattern of Himself.

In the Christian life, there are also three judgments that you must understand and know to be complete—sinner, son, and servant. God's people are messed up on this one, too. You see, before you were saved, you were a sinner. You were destined to die and burn in hell. Then one day you found Jesus Christ as your own personal Savior, and now the way God sees it, from the facts, you're no longer a sinner. God doesn't look at you as a sinner; He looks at you as a son. You may still sin, but He deals differently with your sin as a son than he would have dealt with it as an unsaved man. Sinner versus son. Do you know how many of God's people don't understand that? They go all through life struggling with losing their salvation. I feel sorry for them; they're good people. They've got faith, but they have no facts. They don't understand sinner, son, and servant; therefore, when they sin, operating on their feelings, they think they can lose their salvation.

I've seen guys that have written 20-30 pages as a discourse on why you can't lose your salvation. I've never seen such a waste of paper! You don't need all of those pages with all the verses to show you that you can't lose your salvation. You just need to understand faith, fact, and feeling

as well as sinner, son, and servant. Once you're saved, God no longer looks at you as a sinner but as a son; and therefore, he deals with your sin differently. If you confess it, He forgives you. If you don't, like any good Father, He chastises you. When you get to the Judgment Seat of Christ, God is not going to judge you for the things you did before you got saved—they're under the blood. He's not going to deal with the things you did wrong while you were saved—you either put those under the blood, or He took you to the woodshed. When you get to the Judgment Seat of Christ, and you'd better understand this, it's only going to be about one thing: you being a servant. It's not going to be on how many times you went to church a week, how much money you gave, or how many things you got involved in. It's going to be your attitude of heart towards Him as being a servant. Sinner, son, and servant. The Christian life is a piece of cake because it's built on the pattern of threes.

➤ More Patterns of Threes

D you want to completely study your Bible? God fixed it this way—book, chapter, verse. You take any one of those out, and you can't study your Bible; it won't be complete. When it comes to breaking down the New Testament, there are three books that you must get down—Matthew, Acts, and Hebrews. You want to study God in the beginning? God breaks down into three things—God Omnipresent (He's everywhere), God Omnipotent (He's all powerful), and God Omniscient (He's all-knowing). Three! When God made it all, everything in God's creation will be after the pattern of Himself and will always break down into threes to be complete.

➤ Atomic Structure

Now, can we talk about atomic structure for a moment? Understanding atomic structure will be understanding the system of threes. In a couple of weeks, I'm going to show you how atomic structure, nuclear fission, is the key to understanding who God is. It will give you a new understanding when the Bible says no man can see God and live because there is a reason for that. A great passage in your Bible dealing with atomic structure is found in Hebrews. This will be the definitive passage in your Bible on A-Bombs.

Hebrews 11:1-3. Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

- 2. For by it the elders obtained a good report.
- 3. Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that **things** which are seen were not made of things which do appear.

You see, atomic structure is simply the things that are made and held together by the things you can't see—the atoms. You're all sitting comfortably in a chair right now, and to you it simply looks like a chair; however, if you had the ability to look down to the magnification level that you would need to, you would see that it's not simply a chair. It's held together by billions and billions of atoms so that the things you cannot see make the chair appear. In atomic structure, you have the basic issue of the Bible. So when God created everything, all the way down to the atoms, He said, "I'm going to make this after a pattern of Myself." You've got a proton and a neutron. One is positive and the other is negative, and they chase each other around

in a circle. It's a picture of God and the devil all down through the last 6,000 years of man's history. That's what's holding your tush on the seat this morning! That's what's holding this building up.

In 1936, Dr. Michelson won the Nobel Peace Prize for his work on atomic structure. In 1945, Dr. Robert Oppenheimer (a good 'ole Nazi we got out of Germany) split the atom and we got our first atomic bomb. So he took that atom, however they do it, and when he split the atom (which is the negative and the positive chasing each other around), it created an atomic bomb like we dropped on Hiroshima. Dr. Oppenheimer wasn't saved; he was as lost as a goose; however, the code name for the project which split the atom was called "Project Trinity." So everything is being held together with atoms.

In your Bible, you'll find out that in the future, the heavens are renovated by fire. There are places where the faces of the people are melting like they did at Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The whole second heaven, first heaven, and Earth are renovated by fire. Then He makes new heavens and a new earth. Do you know how He does that? The same way that you take one little atom and separate it and make an atomic bomb. God takes every atom in the second and first heavens and splits them....and you've got the heavens renovated by fire. It's just that simple.

> Still More Patterns of Threes

Atoms make up matter, so matter is in three forms—source, generation, and position. Do you want to talk about the reality of life? We all have to face it; it will be based on three things—time, matter, and space. Time is simply three things—past, present, and future. You can't remove any one of those and have anything at all. On earth, there are three kingdoms that we know about—animal, vegetable, and mineral. When God made the earth, He made it a sphere or a globe. On one side of the globe you have North America, South America, and Central America. On the other side of the globe, you have Asia, Europe, and Africa. I'll show you a little later how that is the key thing God uses for the witness of the gospel today.

The physical world that we live in will have three dimensions—height, length, and depth. In the physical world, you have—the land, air, or sea; so you have to join the Army, Navy, or Air Force. A family will be three things—mother, father, and child. A husband and wife are not a family; it's incomplete until the third part shows up. Music was designed for the glory of God and the history of music in the New Testament is quite an incredible thing to study. Music breaks down into three things—harmony, rhythm, and melody. You take away any one of them, and you've got acid rock!

The sun gives off three types of rays: x-rays, light rays, and heat rays. Your life will be based on three things: your birth, your life, and your death (book of Ecclesiastes). And when you go to your fancy coffee shop to get your latte, the sizes will be small, medium, and large. Back in my day, schools were built around three subjects—reading, writing, and arithmetic.

Do you want to be a complete Christian when it comes to your Bible? Easy: I Timothy 4:13. *Till I come, give attendance to <u>reading</u>, to <u>exhortation</u>, to <u>doctrine</u>. You want the Biblical definition*

of courage; it's in Joshua Chapter one. He tells them if they want to have courage and God's power in their life; just do three things: believe the Book, obey the Book, and rest in the Book. We all struggle with life, and the Bible tells us that we have three infirmities: our flesh, the fact that we don't know how to pray, and that we forget what God has done for us.

Even in church services Colossians 3:16-17 says, Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in <u>psalms</u> and <u>hymns</u> and <u>spiritual songs</u>; that's three: psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs. Out of the book of Proverbs you get knowledge, wisdom, and understanding. The word of God should be in your heart, in your head, and in your hand. When you stop growing spiritually, you lose three things: your perspective, your passion, and your purpose. And the Bible is built around three days: the day of your salvation, the day of Jesus Christ (the rapture when He comes for His bride), and the day of the Lord (when He comes for Israel).

V. Christ Replaced Himself with Three Things When He Went Back to Heaven

Everything is a system of threes God built on the perfect pattern of Himself. So when Christ went back to heaven, He replaced Himself with three things:

- 1. The Holy Spirit of God Comes on the Day of Pentecost in Acts.
- 2. The Word of God By the time we get the book of Revelation in 90 A.D., the word of God is complete.
- 3. The New Testament Local Church.

As a child of God, you cannot be complete in your relationship with Christ without having all three of those in your life. You're kidding yourself if you think you can. You see, God has a plan for your life. I've been in this business for over 50 years, and I've seen a lot of people come and go. I understand one of the greatest truths: the reason God saved you is because God has a plan for your life. Unfortunately, most of God's people will never find it or fulfill it. It's just a fact. They'll get married, get a good job, raise a family, and go to church; however, that's all the farther it goes. They never fulfill God's plan for their life.

You see, the true success of a child of God will be simply one thing. It's not your job, how much money you make, fame, fortune, or status. It's not what you know or who you know. The true success of a child of God, which eludes almost 99.99% of God's people, will be finding out what God wants you to do with your life and then giving your whole life to do it. It's unheard of today. There are simply too many things in the world that run competition with what God wants you to do. And you'll never do that without those three things in your life: the Holy Spirit of God, the word of God, and the New Testament local church.

The problem is that you're incomplete. What good is it if you go to church all your life but you never find God's plan for your life. You're incomplete. That's why in the book of Acts, they did three things: got saved, got baptized, and joined the New Testament local church. And they're first called Christians in Antioch. And what goes out of Antioch—the first missionary trips.

➤ God Wants Us to Finish the Work Christ Started

Here's how it works. There are three things that God replaced Himself with when His Son went back to heaven: the Holy Spirit of God, word of God, and local New Testament church. Now watch God's plan, in his Mind, of what He wanted. Christ shows up in Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John with the birth of Christ, and Christ walks this earth for 33 years. You can begin to see underneath the surface there, because of what we have now, His early ministry to reach the world and what His plan was; however, just after 33 years, God takes Him out. Now part of God's plan was that He had to die on the cross, but He resurrected. Why didn't He just start right there and carry on with it? He couldn't—that's Acts Chapters 1-7; however, God never intended Him to. God didn't need Him to keep going on because from that point on, the day you got saved, Jesus Christ is now living inside you. That's why you're called the son of God.

I John 3:2 says, Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be. You still look like who you are physically, but inside you are a son of God. He's living inside you for one reason: that you and I would pick up the mantle and finish the work that He started. God took Him out after 33 years planning on us to carry the work out.

➤ The Importance of the Local New Testament Church

How terribly selfish we are as God's people. We all want salvation, and about half of that crowd dibble dabbles in the Bible; however, very few want any part of the local New Testament church. It gets in the way of your soccer and baseball games on Sunday mornings. It messes with the Chiefs games or your golf league. Church becomes a convenience for whenever you want to allow it in your life. Then you wonder why you've got the problems you've got, and why you've lost your kids to the world. What does it take? I need an asteroid to drop on your head so that you'll wake up. Do you have any idea what you're teaching your kids when you tell them that soccer on Thursday nights or Sunday mornings is more important than them going to church? Do you have any idea what the devil is going to do with that?

God gave us the Holy Spirit of God who guides us into all truth and keeps the error out of our lives. He gives us the word of God. That's the road map to keep you on track; it's God's mind. He gave us the New Testament local church which is the vehicle by which God intends you to fulfill the plan to get where He wants you to go. In the book of Acts, they got saved, baptized, and joined the New Testament church.

Most pastors will judge their church's success based on the number of people that they have. I've been in churches where they had an attendance goal of 2,500-3,000, and if they didn't make it, Monday morning the pastor sat in his office in deep despair. It didn't matter that two or three people got saved. It was all about numbers, but that's not how God sees it. The real success of any church will simply be how you reach the world to fulfill God's plan with the people you do have—sinner, son, and servant. A church needs to work together to accomplish that understanding those three, but some of God's people will just refuse to do that.

➤ The Devil's Counterfeit to God's Creationism: Theory of Evolution

When God created everything, He created it to display His glory with a perfect creation by a perfect pattern—Himself. And as always, when God moves to do something, the devil moves to stop it.

In 1859, Charles Darwin reinvented the idea of the theory of evolution. It claims that millions of years ago this earth started from an encounter theory, big bang theory, nebula theory, or steady state theory and slowly evolved through millions of years. Man just slowly crawled out of the slime, stood up on two legs, his tail fell off, and here we are today.

The book of Ecclesiastes tells us that there is nothing new under the sun. All history will repeat itself, and man just never learns the lessons of history. Evolution wasn't some new idea in 1859. It was, along with the seven religious counterfeits I've told you about countering the great awakenings, a counterfeit to God's creationism that was being taught as dispensationalism was coming into its own. It's interesting that Charles Darwin comes up with his theory on evolution at the same time the great dispensationalists like Clarence Larkin, John Darby, C.I. Scofield, Bullinger, the Plymouth Brethren, and Dwight Pentecost were flooding the presses with material on dispensationalism and true Biblical creationism. The devil just couldn't stand that.

The idea of evolution goes back to the ancient Egyptians, Babylonians, and the Greeks. It's nothing new. Then you have Christians today who want to meet halfway, so they come up with a theistic evolution. They say that God created it but then He backed off and just let it evolve itself.

VI. Summary

You'll see in our study of Psalms 19 many ways the devil will distract the truth of the heavens declaring the glory of God. Nobody ever looked into the sky at night and thought of evolution. I guarantee you that. I've spent most of my life looking into the stars at the eye of a telescope. I've searched the heavens. I photographed every nebula and planet in the northern hemisphere. I've been a part of hundreds of "Star Parties" where the public came in, you set up a telescope, and you let them look up at the sky. When they saw the intricate web of M33 or M101, the distinct bands on Jupiter or the moons dancing around it, or the rings of Saturn, not one of them ever first went to evolution as to how it got there. That's because the heavens declare the glory of God.

➤ When God Made man, He Put on the Tables of his Heart the Word of God

You see, you have to be educated with the idea that it evolved. When man looks at the heavens, he's looking into the very soul and the very being of the creator who made it all after a pattern of Himself. Romans 2:15 tells us that when God made man, He put on the tables of his heart the word of God. He did that for a reason. He did that because the heavens declare the glory of God and everything God made is after the pattern of Himself. So every time man would look up into the heavens and feel how small he is compared to the vastness of what

he sees, the Holy Spirit of God would take what was on the tables of his heart and begin to speak to him about the creation and the Creator.

When the pilgrims came over, and as they began to move across this country, there were two tribes of Indians that came to them and wanted to know if they had the Book that talked about the Great White Father's Son. Now I know there were Indians that were pagan, murderers, butchers, and savages; however, there were some who found God. They would talk about the Great Spirit; that's Genesis Chapter 1. They would talk about the Great White Father; that's Matthew Chapter 17. When one went out hunting and killed a deer, the first thing he did was get down on his knees and thank the Great Spirit for bringing that deer to him. That's more than most of God's people do when they sit down to eat their dinner. And they're heathens and pagans!?!

This is how God does it. This is why you'll find people out there who never get a preacher or hear a sermon, but God brings them in because of the heavens declaring the glory of God, and everything that God made is in a pattern after Himself. It's a perfect pattern that reveals Himself to His creation (Romans 1:20 and Colossians 1:16-17). A creation that is built around God Himself—God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit through a system of threes that makes it complete and perfect.