

Glad Tidings

“And we bring you good tidings of the promise made unto the fathers...” (Acts 13:32)

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Jehovah Rejoices In His Works

(Jerry Fite)

The Psalmist writes, “*Let the glory of Jehovah endure forever; let Jehovah rejoice in His works*” (Psalm 104:31). This psalm of praise is not questioning whether or not the glory of Jehovah will endure forever, or if Jehovah rejoices in His created works. He is acknowledging these two statements as fact, and voices his approving praise. There is no doubt that God’s glory will endure forever, and therefore no doubt that God does rejoice in His works of creation.

This Psalm points to various reasons as to why God rejoices in His works of creation. The first is already before us: His works reflect His “**glory**”. David writes, “*The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament showeth His handiwork*” (Psalm 19:1). When we look at the sun, moon and stars we sometimes forget how far away they are. On the average, the moon is over 238,000 miles from the earth, and the sun almost 93 million miles away. The nearest star is the Alpha Centauri, and it is a little over 25 ½ trillion miles away from us. Unhampered by lights from earth, one can look into the heavens and see a sheet of light comprised by stars in our galaxy. What is

amazing is that there are not only over 100 billion stars in our galaxy, but now we know there are over 100 billion galaxies in the universe. These many stars, in such a vast universe drive us to acknowledge how “great” God is to use such vastness of space to locate the heavenly bodies. Isaiah speaks to the glory of God in relation to what we see in the sky: “*Lift up your eyes on high, and see who hath created these, that bringeth out their host by number; He calleth them by name by the greatness of His might, and for that He is strong in power, not one is lacking*” (Isaiah 40:26).

God also rejoices in His creation because they “**praise**” Him. What He commanded to come into being, praise him by “being”. There are creatures in the depths of the sea that only God has seen. Yet they praise Him: “*Praise Jehovah from the earth, ye sea-monsters, and all deeps*” (Psalm 148:7). God no doubt rejoices when he looks upon His vast seas: “*There go the ships; there is the leviathan, whom Thou hast formed to play therein*” (Psalm 104:26).

The writer of Psalm 104 informs us that God rejoices in His works of creation because

they manifest His great “**wisdom**”. The Psalmist writes, “*O Jehovah, how manifold are thy works! In wisdom hast thou made them all: the earth is full of thy riches*” (Psalm 104:24). Not only do you see a variety of created things in the plant and animal kingdom, but every created thing manifests the incomparable wisdom of God. We can see that grass grows, but why? “*He causeth the grass to grow for the cattle, and herb for the service of man; that he may bring food out of the earth*” (Psalm 104:14). The cow eats the grass and produces milk. The process from grass -to cow- to milk takes about 2 days. The cow takes the grass in, entering a cycle of 4 stomach compartments, and finally through the utters, the average of 32 liters of milk a day is produced. Man is not only being supplied milk from the cow, but with some labor in the ground, herbs grow for him to eat. Such processes are only the beginning of many that cause God to rejoice. For they demonstrate the wisdom of God contained in all His works.

Observing, thinking about and pointing out to our children the glory, wisdom and power of God in His creative works should be one of our priorities in life.