

# Testimony to God's Glory

## Psalm 19

### Charlie Brackett

The 19th Psalm is a poem written by David for singing in the worship of Jehovah God. It has three parts, or stanzas. The first, verses 1-6, celebrates the declaration of God's glory as evidenced in heavenly bodies. Whether day or night, man need only look up to see glorious testimony to the power, artistry and intelligence of God, the Architect and Builder of the universe.

But, looking at the majesty of God in His works suggests more. Such intelligent order suggests a God with a will for His creatures. Having begun with praise for God's glory in creative works, the poet then begins his second stanza in verse seven by proclaiming the glory of God as seen in His spoken word. This is a very different message regarding the testimony of God and so David writes it in a very different style. He uses statements, which are direct, and precise, just like the law of which he speaks.

This second stanza and the third, which begins in verse 12, are thematically like two sides of the same coin. The thoughts of the second stanza proclaim the glory of God as Lawgiver. Various characteristics of God's law are given; it is perfect, sure, right, pure, clean and true. And keeping it has results. It restores the soul, makes wise the simple, rejoices the heart, and enlightens the eyes. God's law endures forever and is altogether righteous. David's conclusions are that God's laws are more desirable than fine gold and sweeter than honey in the honeycomb. They warn God's servants who, if they keep them, will have great reward. That's the first theme.

Then David's thoughts logically turn from God's law to the kind of response expected of an obedient child of God. Notice that once again the style changes as David asks for help in keeping God's laws, in knowing his sins and in being protected from sin's domination. In verse 14, the poem reaches its climax, the kind of human response, which is essential to appreciating the testimony to God's glory, which He has given us in His creation and in His spoken word. *"Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Thy sight,..."*

David starts with the God of Creation and ends with the God of Redemption. What a wonderfully hopeful connection! The God who made us did not leave us. He cares for us. He is our Redeemer!