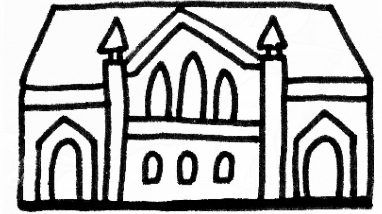


Welcome to Calvary Church, Brighton



Today 14th July 2019 speaker Philip Wells, church minister
This morning - Psalm 29 - A song for a storm

www.calvary-brighton.org.uk

Sermons and talks - calvary-brighton.sermon.net

Singing salvation

Psalm 29

About a storm

About the LORD

*About personal response to
the Lord of the storm*

- the storm is completely
unstoppable, powerful,
with its own wild,
awesome beauty*
- maybe even chaotic, and
dangerous*
- But the LORD is King over
it*



Plan

Psalm 29

0. introduction ... our spectacles - how we see this

0.2 - the whole thing

1. what to give to the LORD

2. the LORD's storm over the water

3. the LORD's storm over the forest

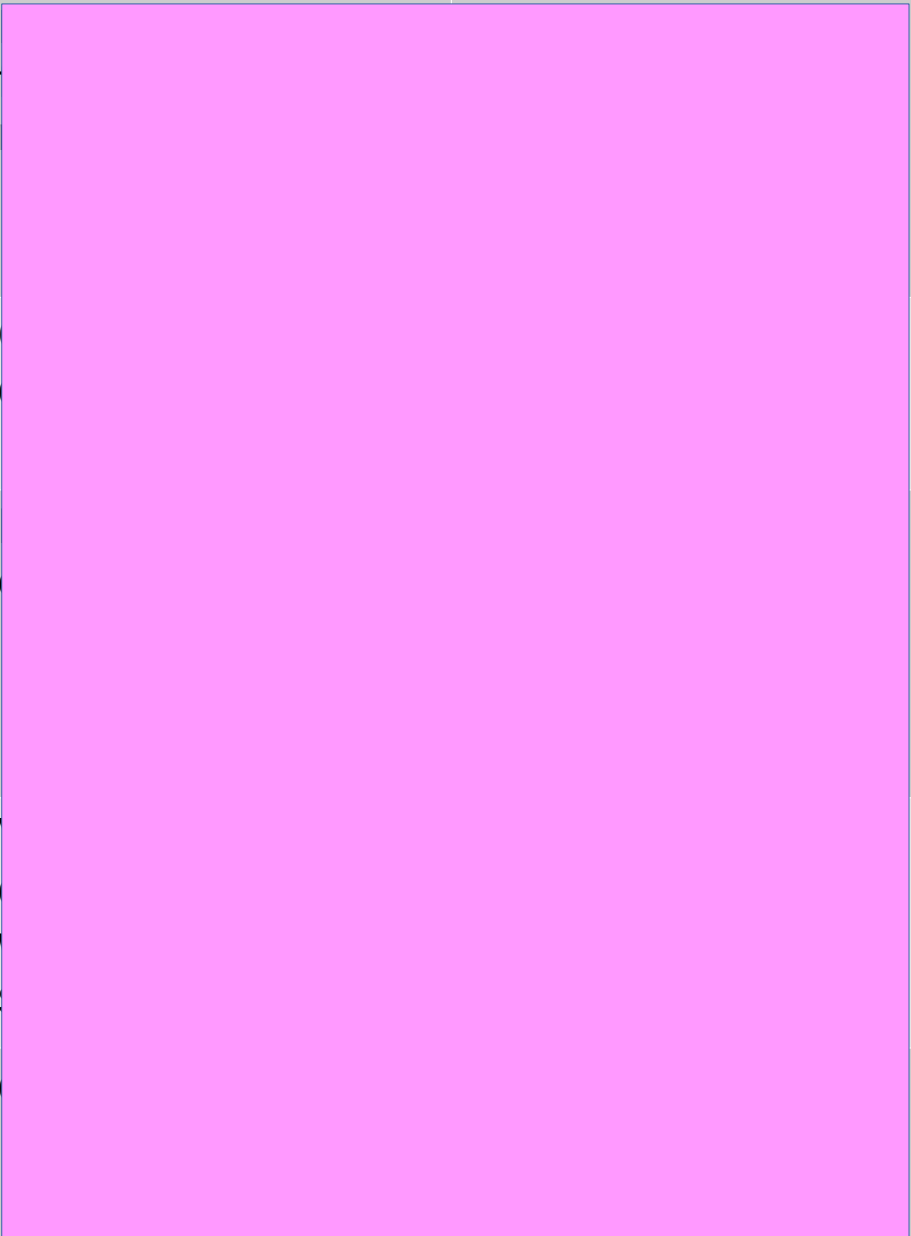
4. the LORD's storm in his temple



0. *what's at stake?*

World view	pre-modern	modern/evolutionary	Bible
How it got there			
How it runs			
What it contains			
weight/value			
redemption			

0. what's at stake?

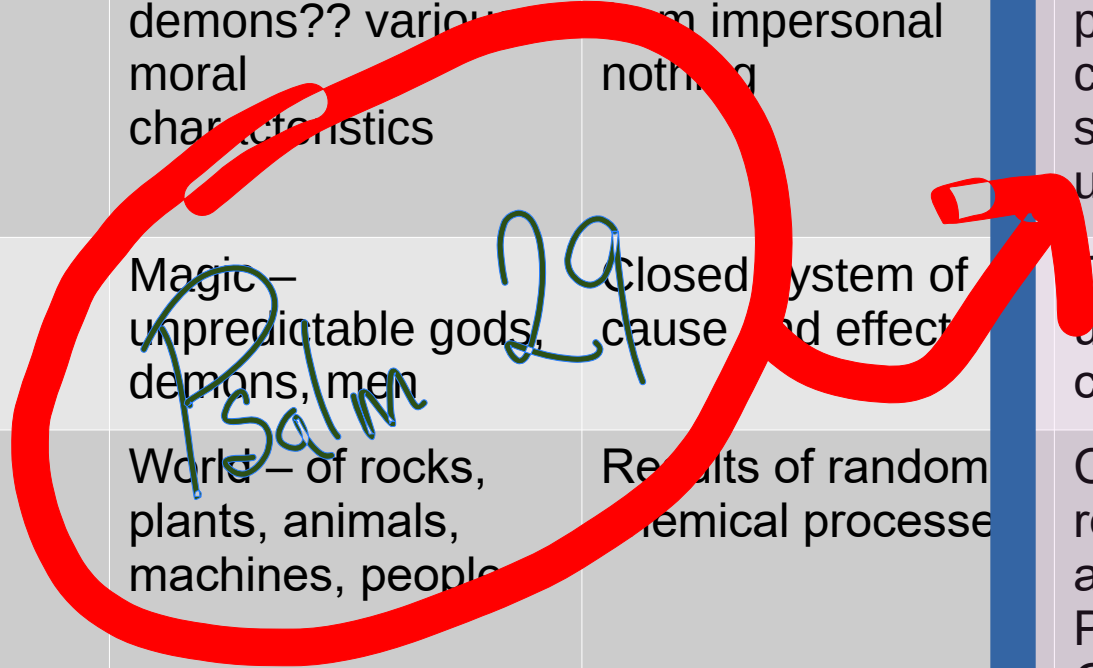
World view	pre-modern	modern/evolutionary	Bible
How it got there	Multiple gods and demons?? various moral characteristics		
How it runs	Magic – unpredictable gods, demons, men		
What it contains	World – of rocks, plants, animals, machines, people		
weight/value	good/evil honour/shame		
redemption	Humanly achieved - possibly		

0. what's at stake?

World view	pre-modern	modern/evolutionary	Bible
How it got there	Multiple gods and demons?? various moral characteristics	Everything came from impersonal nothing	
How it runs	Magic – unpredictable gods, demons, men	Closed system of cause and effect	
What it contains	World – of rocks, plants, animals, machines, people	“nothing but” results of random chemical processes	
weight/value	good/evil honour/shame	Value free, values only exist as that which produces survival	
redemption	Humanly achieved - possibly	empty	

0. what's at stake?

World view	pre-modern	modern/evolutionary	Bible
How it got there	Multiple gods and demons?? various moral characteristics	Everything came from impersonal nothing	One God who is personal and ethical creates and sustains the universe
How it runs	Magic – unpredictable gods, demons, men	Closed system of cause and effect	God's providence using levels of causation (1,2,3 ...)
What it contains	World – of rocks, plants, animals, machines, people	Results of random chemical processes	Created world of rocks, plants, animals, machines. People made in God's image
weight/value	good/evil honour/shame	Value free, values only exist as that which produces survival	Ethical, purposeful world for the Creator's glory
redemption	Humanly achieved - possibly	empty	Divinely achieved through on man Jesus Christ



0. the whole thing

It's a poem → song

- "Artistic form enhances the didactic statement" Dr Francis Schaeffer

It uses powerful poetic repetition and variation throughout

- "the voice of the LORD" / "the LORD" (x18)

It uses simple powerful sentences

- "the voice of the LORD is over the waters // the God of glory roars // the LORD over the many waters"

It describes a massive thunder storm

It relates this storm to the God of Israel

- And the "mighty ones" v.1
- And those in his temple v.9b
- And his people v.11

1. what to give to the LORD of the storm

A command, based on a conclusion

- To the Mighty ones
 - Literally: sons of god
- "Give/Ascribe to the LORD"
 - Glory - his weightiness, (versus light-weight) also v.9
 - Strength - power (also v.11)
 - Splendour - beauty (v.2, also v.4)
 - Holiness - v.2
- N.B. the transcendent excellence of these categories
- N.B. the command to give personal, intelligent, and honouring ("worship") expression to this
- ==> will we want to make ourselves an exception to this command??



2. the LORD's storm over the water

"Over the waters" "Thunders /roars" "Over many waters"

= the voice of the LORD

N.B. The LORD God

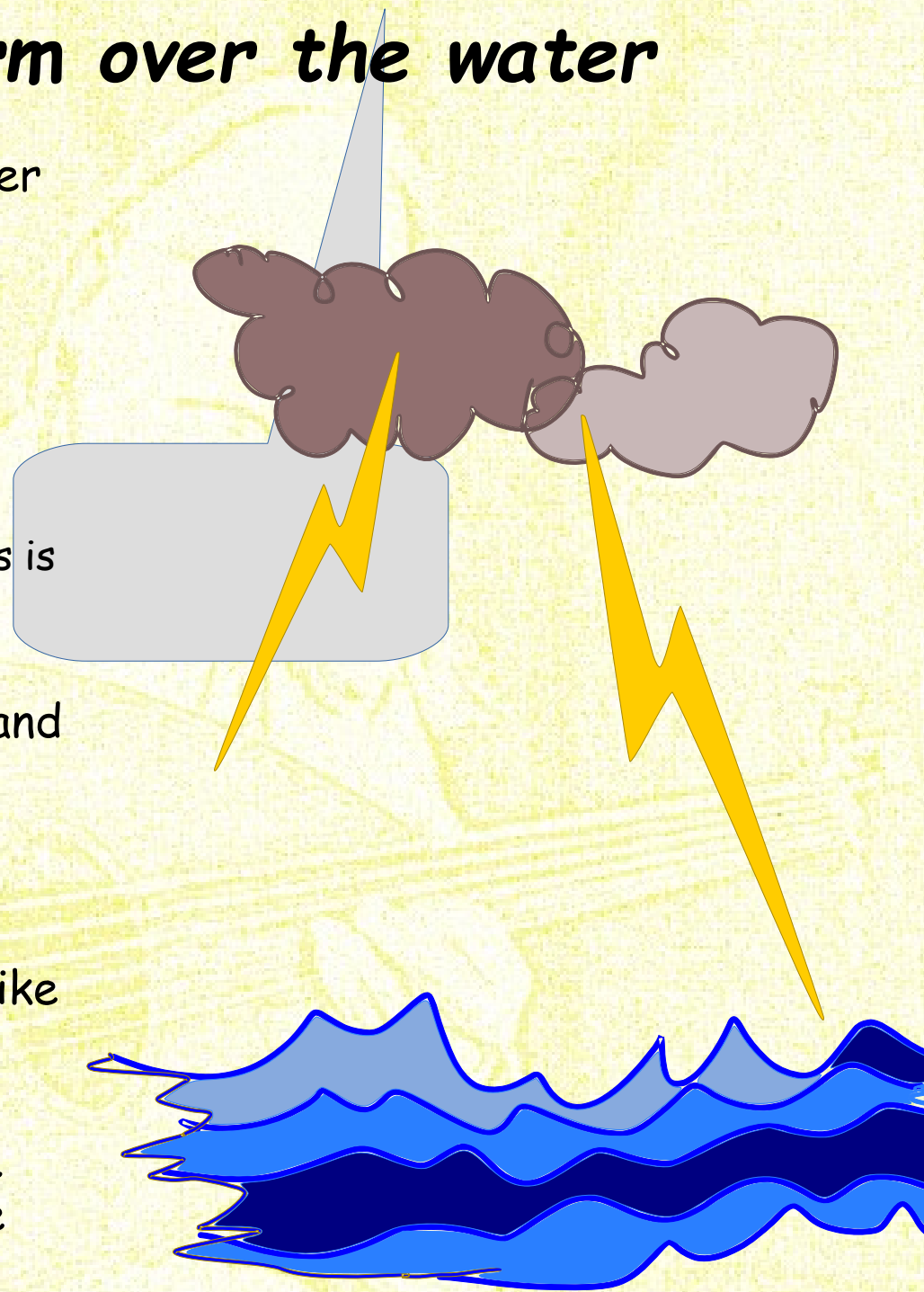
- calls
- roars/thunders
- Whether we do or do not understand - this is the LORD God via his WORD

Mark 6:50 2... they saw him, they were terrified. Immediately he spoke to them and said "Take courage! It is I"

N.B. "many waters"

Ezekiel meets a man 43:2 "His voice was like the sound of many waters!"

Revelation 1:15 "His feet were like bronze glowing in a furnace, and his voice was like the sound of many waters"

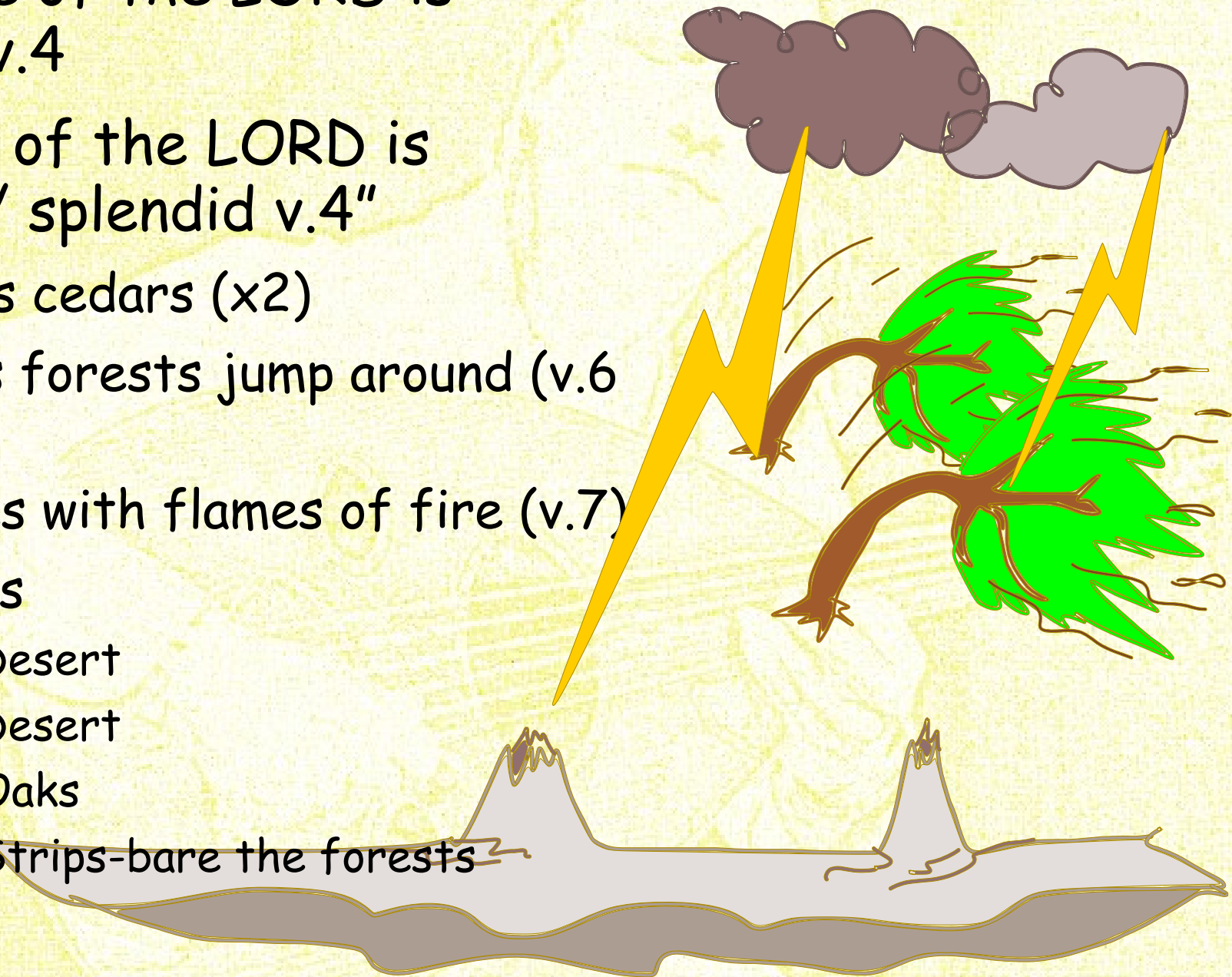


3. the LORD's storm over the forest

"The voice of the LORD is powerful v.4

The voice of the LORD is majestic / splendid v.4"

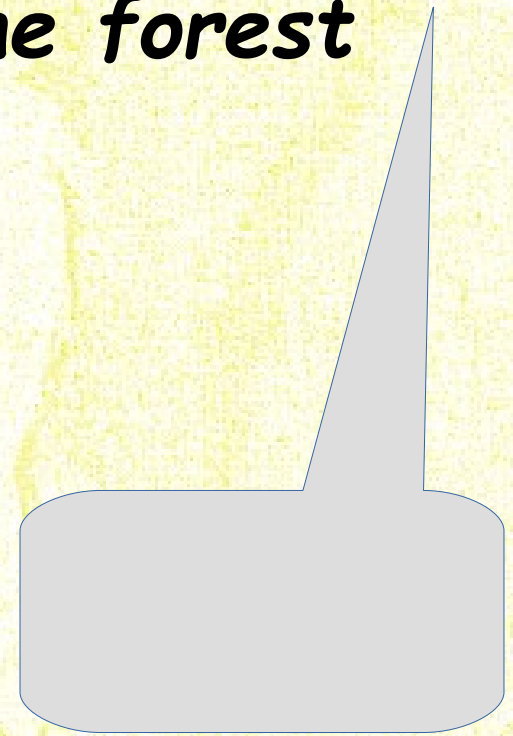
- Breaks cedars (x2)
- Makes forests jump around (v.6 x2)
- Divides with flames of fire (v.7)
- Shakes
 - Desert
 - Desert
 - Oaks
 - Strips-bare the forests



3. the LORD's storm over the forest

We note the insistence that these all are the effects of the "voice of the LORD"

- i.e. behind the noise of the thunder, and the action of the lightning
 - Is the LORD
 - The voice of the LORD
- i.e. behind the quaking and shaking of creation
 - Is the LORD
 - Is the voice of the LORD
- ==> ***Q: we have the voice of the LORD by paper and ink. Do we shake and tremble at his word? Does it act upon us? Does it have authority over us?***



3. the LORD's storm over the forest

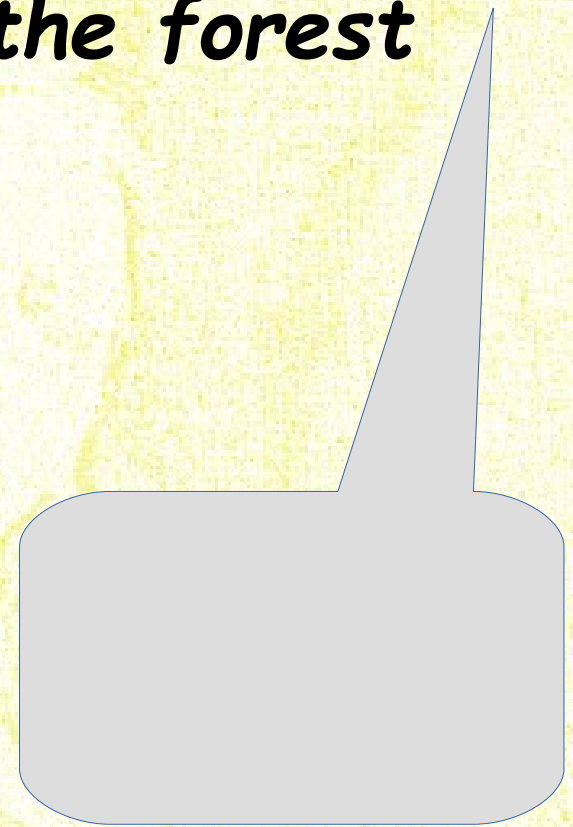
Genesis 1:3: "And God said, "let there be light, and there was light"

Psalms 19:1: "The heavens declare the glory of God, the skies proclaim the work of his hands. Day after day they pour forth speech ..."

Romans 1:20: "For from the creation of the world God's invisible qualities, his eternal power and divine nature have been clearly seen ..."

==> we need to unlearn the modern way of seeing and learn again to discern God himself in the created world.

Like the glove reveals the invisible hand inside it, creation reveals the Creator, his love and his power etc. with a totally appropriate response ...



4. the LORD's storm - in his temple

There is a place that "joins heaven and earth"

- His mountain / city / temple
- Temple = the place of atoning sacrifice
 - made by life given up
 - in substitution
 - and blood shed.
 - The ultimate redemptive place for the cosmos
- (actually a different mountain is the ultimate place of cosmic redemption)

What happens at the temple?



4.1 the LORD's storm - in his temple

What happens there?

1. "All within his temple cry "Glory"

- Not an impersonal cry but a personal one
- Reasoned, whole-hearted, humble, worshipping cry "Glory [to God]" v.9b
- Like vs 1 & 2 "Give to the LORD glory and strength ... worship him in his beauty and holiness"
- ==> have we realised that this is what his people do?
- ==> do we respond to God's word and work in this world crying "glory"?
- [OR do we only complain, OR are our eyes closed and our hearts hardened?]
- "a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light" 1 Peter 2:9

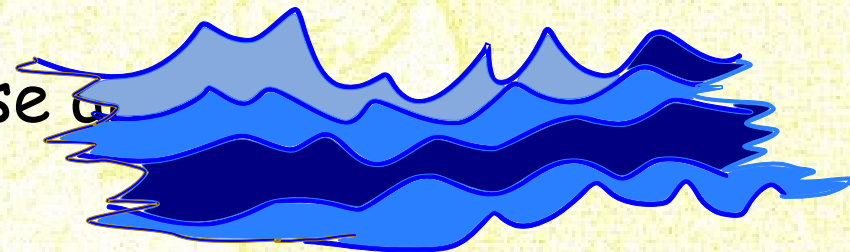
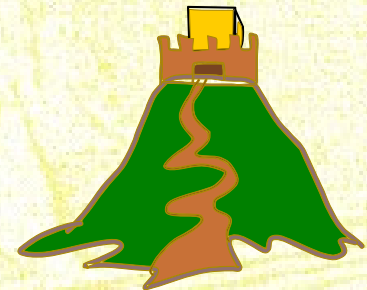
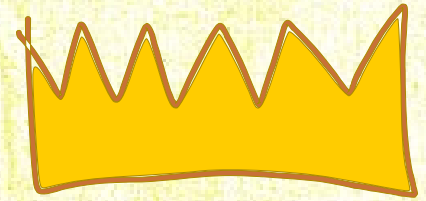


4.2 the LORD's storm - in his temple

What happens there?

2. it is clearly seen that the LORD reigns over the storm

- v.10 the LORD sits [enthroned] (x2) as King, over the flood, for ever
- Flood = threatening chaos
- N.B. storm on a lake in Galilee
- [He was in a boat] - got up and rebuked the wind and said to the waves "Quiet! Be still!. Then the wind died down and it was completely calm - Mark 4:39
- ==> speaks greatly to the praise & greatness of Jesus Christ!



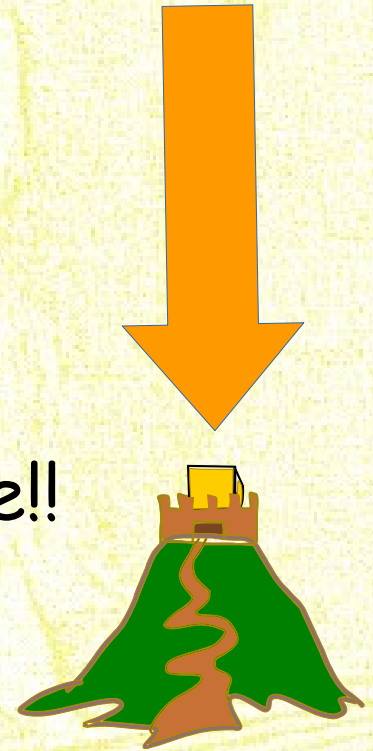
4.3 the LORD's storm - in his temple

What happens there?

3. The LORD gives ... and blesses

...

- Storm: strength, power (v.1, 4)
- * He gives his strength to his people!!
- Isaiah 40:29 - he gives strength to the weary
 - Enough to do what he wants, even if that seems humanly impossible
 - At the time when it is needed
 - In answer to prayer
 - Made perfect in weakness



4.3. the LORD's storm - in his temple

What happens there?

3. The LORD gives ... and blesses ...

- Storm: strength, power (v.1, 4)
- Breaking, Shaking, roaring/thundering

... He blesses his people with

... peace!!

- *He calms the storm of guilt by redemptive sacrifice (not animals but Jesus)*
- *He calms the storm of anxious thoughts John 14:1,27 "let not your hearts be troubled ... Peace I leave with you, my peace I give you"*

Peace!



4.3. the LORD's storm - in his temple

3. The LORD gives ... and blesses ...

... He blesses his people with
... peace!!

Numbers 6:24-26

*"The LORD bless you and keep you,
The LORD make his face to shine
upon you*

And be gracious to you

The LORD turn his face towards you

And give you peace"

Peace!



Welcome to this meeting of Calvary Church!

Psalm 104 - In majesty and splendour

Song - 254 Ascribe Greatness to our God the Rock

Prayer

For the children

Reading Mark 6:45-52 - Jesus walks on water

Song - You're the word of God the Father

Prayer

Reading Psalm 29

Song - 104 O worship the King

Talk - Singing salvation - Psalm 29 A psalm for a storm

Song - 754 Be still my soul