



WELCOME TO BIBLE HOUSE OF GRACE

If you think items presented on this site to be in error, please let me know and I will gladly reconsider the content.

Psalm 8

(2019)

Bible House of Grace contains an easy to read New and Old Testament commentary full of spiritual treasures and pearls, complete with an insightful resource guide illuminating God's love and grace.



Learn the
Bible
at Home

Although I believe my aim is pure and God's will perfect this document is still the product of a human man, as to such I neither claim perfect knowledge or perfect understanding.

Psalm 8.

Topics.

- How majestic is God's name! His glory is above the heavens.
- Out of the mouth of babes and infants.
- What is man that you are mindful of him and that you care for him?
- No-one has an excuse to say they do not know God.

FOR INFORMATION: concerning people, places and the meaning of words see the title: "Map Locations and People of the Bible," and the title: "Bible Dictionary" on Website Menu.

INTRODUCTION

Psalms are songs and prayers offered to God by the nation Israel, they consist of five books covering the range of human emotion, expressing praise, faith, victory, sorrow, despair, depression, frustration and the troubled heart of a mourner. They contrast the righteous with the wicked, and include the wisdom and the treasure of God's word. Psalms were written at the beginning of the 15th century BC and probably collected in their final form in the 3rd century.

BOOK ONE (PSALM 1-41)

PSALM 8:1-2

1

To the Choirmaster: According to the Gittith. A Psalm of David.

How majestic is God's Name! His Glory is above the Heavens.

- **Psalm 8:1-2:** O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens. ²Out of the mouth of babes and infants, you have established strength because of your foes, to still the enemy and the avenger.

God's glory is seen on earth not only in the birth a newborn child, the wonder of nature, the beauty of animals, birds and fish who live in the deep and in the rainbow and in all of God's creation under the sun, but also seen in the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ and charitable acts of compassion and kindness. God's glory is also seen in the sky and the heavens with the greatness of the sun, the moon and the glory of the stars rolling in awesome grandeur shining brightly and lighting up the darkness of the night. These are all proofs that witness to the great and majestic power of the invisible, immortal God Almighty the creator of all things and source of all life.

- The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork. ²Day to day pours out speech, and night to night reveals knowledge. ³There is no speech, nor are there words, whose voice is not heard. ⁴Their measuring line goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. (Psalm 19:1-4).

Out of the mouth of babes and infants: (v2) some believe this expression refers to infant children from one to three years old that give praise to God and in their honest innocence testify of His goodness. Other believe it applies to babies, they reason that the miraculous formation of milk and the baby instinctively knowing how to suck nourishment from the breast testifies to atheist (enemies of God) the existence of God and His care and in this way the enemies of God are put to silence, but though

the feeding babies is marvellous it is it is not evidence that God exists since even women who believe in evolution breast feed their babies and they don't believe in God. But the expression, "Out of the mouth of babes and infants" is said in the context of overcoming some mighty enemy and in the context of some manifested strength by which some enemy, or someone who was seeking revenge, was overcome by those who might be compared with infants on account of their feebleness. This is perhaps one of the reasons the psalmist says, "What is man that you are mindful of him (v4) a creature so, weak and feeble as man.

Babes and sucklings: is not to be taken literally, but rather to be understood in a figurative sense and to apply them to faithful prophets, kings, rulers like the apostles and the first preachers of the Gospel; and of such similar men and women who received it and proclaimed God's word who in their own eyes and in the eyes of the world seen as babes and sucklings. It is to be applied to faithful men and women in the same manner as the following verses have applied the expression little children to the apostles, the disciples and others who received the word of God and proclaimed it.

- Jesus declared: "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to *little children* (Matthew 11:25).

The King James Bible says:

- I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them *unto babes*. (Matt. 11:25).

Babes and sucklings are utterly unable to keep themselves let alone ward off an enemy which means that the expression, "babes and sucklings," does not refer to age, but to those who lack power and authority, strength and might and who by this world's standards are considered feeble and weak as the following verses show:

- Proverbs are written to give prudence to the *simple*, knowledge and discretion *to the youth* (*young man in the KJV*) (Proverbs 1:4).
- God will make Israel's *boys* (*children in the KJV*) *their princes*, and *infants* shall rule over them. (Isaiah 3:4).
- Jesus said, "Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become *like children*, (*as little children in the KJV*), you will never enter the kingdom of heaven." (Matt. 18:3).
- Christ gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, ¹²to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, ¹³until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, ¹⁴so that we may *no longer be children*, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. (Ephes. 4:11-14).

Babes and little children are unfit to rule over the princes of Israel and to have the word of God revealed to them, to overcome an enemy, to have the strength to confound an enemy to silence and to mightily advance the glory of God which means the expression, "Babes and sucklings," cannot be taken literally, but figuratively.

- Jesus said to them, have you never read, "Out of the *mouth of infants and nursing babies* (*babes and sucklings* in KJV) you have prepared praise?" (Matt. 21:16).
- God chose *what is foolish* in the world to shame the wise; God chose *what is weak* in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸God chose *what is low* (*base things in the KJV*) and *things which are despised* in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, ²⁹so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. (1 Cor. 1:27-29).

In these verses the apostles and disciples who proclaimed the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ are referred to as, infants and sucklings, nursing babies and as foolish, weak and lowly clearly showing that the Psalmist words, "Out of the mouth of babes and infants, you have established

strength because of your foes, to still the enemy and the avenger” (Psalm 8:2) do not apply to babies and children, but to faithful men and women who throughout the Old and New Testament proclaimed the word of God and conquered kingdoms and who the world considered feeble and weak and who God said, “the world was not worthy of. (Heb. 11:38).

To still the enemy and the avenger: (v2) the enemy was most likely some enemy of the author of the psalm; but who it was, is not mentioned which allows it to apply to all enemies of God and of those who follow Him. The focus is upon stilling the enemy which carries the idea that there were those who rose up against God, and opposed his Kingdom and plans, and that God, in overcoming them, instead of putting forth his own power directly, had called and used faithful men and women who were weak and feeble like little children.

PSALM 8:3-9

What is Man that you are Mindful of Him and Care for Him?

- **Psalm 8:3-9:** When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, ⁴what is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him? ⁵Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor. ⁶You have given him dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under his feet, ⁷all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field, ⁸the birds of the heavens, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the seas. ⁹O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

There are two aspects to Gods glory:

1. God’s glory in His character, His steadfast love, grace, mercy, patience and forgiveness, manifested to all in the life of the Lord Jesus Christ.
2. God’s glory in creation, the heavens, the moon and the stars which He set in place.

No-one has an excuse to say they do not know God: everyone who says they cannot believe that God exists is with-out excuse, because creation, the heavens, the moon and the stars which He set in place all proclaim the LORD’S glory and the reality of His existence. The majesty and awesomeness of God’s creation and the heavens should have the following two effects upon mankind:

1. Humble everyone, to such an extent that they wonder what value do they have that God would even consider them and even more than that actually care about them.
2. Cause them to seek after and find God.

God has crowned humans with glory and honour means the LORD has made them above all things in dominion and authority except the angels, and that there is nothing on earth that is more valuable to God than humans.

As the founder of Bible House of Grace, I would like to thank the many Christian scholars, commentators and theologians who have gone before me, and the many today, who have freely made available their works to enhance the knowledge of the Bible to all people worldwide. It is only with the help of these faithful writers that much of Bible House of Grace exists as it does today.
