

The Creation Decree, Psalm 8,
and the New Testament

I. The Creation Decree:

Gen. 1:26 Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." Gen. 1:27 And God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. Gen. 1:28 And God blessed them; and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it; and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

II. Psalm 8 — A Poetic Commentary on the Creation Decree!

Psalm 8:
For the choir director; on the Gittith.
A Psalm of David.

Ps. 8:1 O Lord, our Lord, How majestic is Thy name in all the earth,
Who hast displayed Thy splendor above [upon] the heavens!

Ps. 8:2 From the mouth of infants and nursing babes
Thou hast established strength,
Because of Thine adversaries,
To make the enemy and the revengeful cease.

Ps. 8:3 When I consider Thy heavens, the work of Thy fingers,
The moon and the stars, which Thou hast ordained;

Ps. 8:4 What is man, that Thou dost take thought of him?
And the son of man, that Thou dost care for him?

Ps. 8:5 Yet Thou hast made him a little lower than God,
And dost crown him with glory and majesty!

Ps. 8:6 Thou dost make him to rule over the works of Thy hands;
Thou hast put all things under his feet,

Ps. 8:7 All sheep and oxen, And also the beasts of the field,

Ps. 8:8 The birds of the heavens, and the fish of the sea,
Whatever passes through the paths of the seas.

Ps. 8:9 O Lord, our Lord,
How majestic is Thy name in all the earth!

III. Psalm 8 and the New Testament

A. 1 Corinthians 15: 25-28 (esp. v. 27)

1 Cor. 15:25 For He must reign until He has put all His enemies under His feet. 1 Cor. 15:26 The last enemy that will be abolished is death. 1 Cor. 15:27 **For He has put all things in subjection under His feet.** But when He says, "All things are put in subjection," it is evident that He is excepted who put all things in subjection to Him. 1 Cor. 15:28 And when all things are subjected to Him, then the Son Himself also will be subjected to the One who subjected all things to Him, that God may be all in all.

B. Ephesians 1: 19-23 (esp. v. 22)

Eph. 1:19 . . . and what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe. These are in accordance with the working of the strength of His might Eph. 1:20 which He brought about in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead, and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, Eph. 1:21 far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age, but also in the one to come. Eph. 1:22 **And He put all things in subjection under His feet**, and gave Him as head over all things to the church, Eph. 1:23 which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

C. Hebrews 2: 5-9 (esp. vv. 6-8)

Heb. 2:5 For He did not subject to angels the world to come, concerning which we are speaking. Heb. 2:6 But one has testified somewhere [Psa. 8], saying:

"What is man, that Thou rememberest him? Or the son of man, that Thou art concerned about him? Heb. 2:7 "Thou hast made him for a little while lower than the angels; Thou hast crowned him with glory and honor, And hast appointed him over the works of Thy hands, Heb. 2:8 Thou hast put all things in subjection under his feet."

For in subjecting all things to him, He left nothing that is not subject to him. But now we do not yet see all things subjected to him. Heb. 2:9 But we do see Him who has been made for a little while lower than the angels, namely, Jesus, because of the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, that by the grace of God He might taste death for everyone.

Conclusion:

*Psalm 8— Domine, Dominus Noster
Joseph Corfe (1740-1820), from Henry Lawes (1596-1662)
· Psalms from St. Paul's · St. Paul's Cathedral Choir
· Andrew Lucus, organ; John Scott, conductor*

*O Lord, our Governor, how excellent is Thy Name in all the world;
Thou that hast set Thy glory above the heavens!
Out of the mouth of very babes and sucklings hast Thou ordained strength because of Thine enemies;
That Thou mightest still the enemy and the avenger.*

*For I will consider Thy heavens, even the works of Thy fingers,
The moon and the stars which Thou hast ordained,
What is man that Thou art mindful of him, and the son of man that Thou visitest him?
Thou madest him lower than the angels, to crown him with glory and worship.
Thou makest him to have dominion of the works of Thy hands,
And Thou has put all things in subjection under his feet.
All sheep and oxen, yea and the beasts of the field;
The fowls of the air and the fishes of the sea,
and whatsoever walketh through the paths of the seas.*

*O Lord, our Governor,
How excellent is Thy Name in all the world!*

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be; world without end.*

Amen