

What Is Man That Thou Art Mindful of Him?

by Mark Legendre

I. INTRODUCTION

- A. When is the last time you walked outside on a starry night and gazed into the sky to look at the beautiful stars and the moon? When is the last time you stopped for a moment on a sunny day and looked at the brightness of the sun and the lovely blue sky above?
 - 1. When is the last time you stopped to listen to the birds sing?
 - 2. When is the last time you considered the fact that all of these wonderful blessings that are a part of this vast universe are the works of Almighty God?
- B. And, when is the last time that you thought to yourself in relationship to God and said, "What Is Man That Thou Art Mindful of Him?"
- C. Let's take the time to do that today.

II. THE GREATNESS OF GOD!

- A. Read with me Psalms 8:3-9
 - 1. When I consider the "greatness of God," especially as He compares to "man," I am forced to say to myself, "What is man that thou art mindful of Him?"
 - a. Why did God, who is so far superior to man, choose to bless man in the magnificent way that He has?
 - i. Man was made only a little lower than angels.
 - ii. God crowned man with "glory & honor."
 - iii. God gave man "dominion" over all of the things that He had created. (Gen. 1:26-31)
 - b. God also blessed man in that He gave him "freewill;" that is, the ability to make choices in life. (Joshua 24:15)
 - 2. And out of all the things that God in His infinite power had created, "man alone" received the special honor of being "created in the image of God." (Gen. 1:26-27 / Gen. 9:6)
- B. It was very long until man, with the blessing of "freewill" that had been given to him by God, made the wrong choice and sinned against His Creator. (Gen. 3)

III. THE HISTORY OF MAN!

- A. As time progressed, man became more evil, both in his thoughts and in his deeds. (Gen 6:5-7)
 - 1. In this great flood that God brought on the Earth as a result of man's rebellion and wickedness, there were found "8 righteous souls" that were spared and God allowed man to begin again. (Gen. 7:1 / Gen. 8:15-22)
 - 2. But, again it wasn't very long until man made more wrong choices with the blessing of "freewill" that God had given him. (Ps. 78:9-39)

- B. Because of God's greatness and because of His Complete Righteousness, God could not have fellowship with man in his sinful condition. (Is. 59:1-2)
- C. Yet, in spite of the sinfulness of man, God did not give up on him. (Again, I must ask myself the question, "What is man that thou art mindful of him?")

IV. THE GREATNESS OF GOD'S LOVE FOR MAN!

- A. Why is it that in spite of the wickedness of man, God did not give up on him? (Ps. 78:38-39) "Compassion"
 - 1. The Bible has the answer! (Love 1 Jn. 4:7-8 / Long-suffering 2 Pet. 3:9)
 - 2. The Parable of the Prodigal Son illustrates the "great love of God for man." (Lk. 15:11-24)
- B. God loved man so much and wanted him to be "saved" so greatly that He was willing to make the supreme sacrifice that was necessary for man to be "reconciled to God." (Rom. 5:6-8 / Rom. 8:32 / 1 Jn. 4:9-11)
 - 1. God "gave His only begotten Son Jesus" to come into this sinful world and to take the sins of man upon Himself that we, through the shedding of His blood, could experience FORGIVENESS and be "reconciled to our Creator." (2 Cor. 5:17-21) (WE NEEDED GOD!)
 - 2. It is very difficult for me to understand how God could continue to love man in spite of all that man had done. And, it is even more difficult for me to comprehend the fact that God would "give His only Son" to die on the Cross of Cavalry so that our sins might be forgiven! (1 Pet. 2:21-25)

V. CONCLUSION

- A. There are certain scriptures in the Bible that I never get tired of hearing; like John 3:16 which says, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life."
- B. Next time you see the stars shining and the Moon aglow, remind yourself of not only the Greatness of our Creator, but also the Greatness of His Love For Man!
- C. And then let us say with David, "O Lord our Lord, how excellent is they name in all the earth." (Ps. 8:1-9, esp. vs. 9)