

## Psalm 29

**Title:** The Voice of the Lord

**Author and Date:** David

**Key Verses:** Psalm 29:3-9

### **Outline**

- A. Praise: the Lord's strength is praised in the heaven (verses 1-2).
- B. Power: the Lord's strength is displayed in the storm (verses 3-9).
- C. Peace: the Lord's strength is given in the earth (verses 10-11).

### **Notes**

Title: "A Psalm of David." See the notes on Psalm 3.

Verse 1: "Ascribe" means to give or attribute honor and glory to the Lord (Deut. 32:3; 1 Chron. 16:28-29; Job 36:3; Psa. 68:34; 96:7-8). The "sons of the mighty" (lit. sons of God) is a reference to the angels that surround God in heaven (Psa. 89:5-8). The RSV and NRSV read: "heavenly beings".

Verse 2: To worship in "holy array" (lit. in the beauty of holiness) is to worship a holy Lord in holiness. Here, the angels worship in holiness; elsewhere, God's people worship in "holy array" (1 Chron. 16:29; 2 Chron. 20:21; Psa. 96:9; 110:3). The OT priests also had to wear holy garments (Ex. 28:2).

Verse 3: "The voice of the Lord", found seven times, is the theme of this psalm. For the most part, this psalm is about God and his nature (see also Psalm 8, 19, and 104). It describes the glory of the Lord using natural phenomenon; in particular, a storm. Note the following descriptions associated with a powerful, raging storm: thunders (verse 3), waters (verse 3), breaks cedars (verse 5), flames of fire or lightning (verse 7), shakes the wilderness (verse 8), and strips the forests (verse 9). David may have composed this psalm while he was watching a sudden, terrific thunder storm that swept from the mountains in the north (Lebanon) to the wilderness in the south (Kadesh).

Verse 6: "Sirion" is the name the Sidonians gave to Mount Hermon, a 9,200 foot peak on the border of modern-day Syria and Lebanon (Deut. 3:9). To "skip" is symbolic of moving rapidly (Psa. 114:4-7). The KJV reads "unicorn" instead of "wildox". The Hebrew *re'em* is more likely the Aurochs or wild ox (Num. 23:22; 24:8; Deut. 33:17; Job 39:9-10; Psa. 22:21; 92:10; Isa. 34:7).

Verse 7: "Flames of fire" is a reference to the lightning in a storm (Psa. 104:4).

Verse 8: The “wilderness of Kadesh” is located in southern Palestine (Gen. 20:1; Num. 13:26).

Verse 9: The heavenly angelic worshippers (verses 1-2) say “Glory” to the Lord.

Verse 10: “The flood” is a reference to the flood of Noah’s day (Genesis 6-7). The flood would be the storm of all storms that has come from the voice of the Lord. The Lord sat as King over the great flood (Gen. 6:17) and he continues to sit as King over all lesser storms since and over all mankind (Psa. 9:7).

## **Questions**

1. What does the psalmist encourage the “sons of the mighty” to do to the Lord (verse 1)?
2. How are the “sons of the mighty” to worship the Lord (verse 2)?
3. Where is the voice of the Lord found and what does the “God of glory” do (verse 3)?
4. How is the voice of the Lord described (verse 4)?
5. What does the voice of the Lord do in Lebanon (verse 5)?
6. What do the cedars of Lebanon do at the voice of the Lord (verse 6)?
7. What else does the voice of the Lord do (verses 7-9)?
8. What is said in the Lord’s temple (verse 9)?
9. How does the Lord sit (verse 10)?

10. What two things will the Lord give his people (verse 11)?

### **Applications for Today**

1. Like the heavenly angels, we need to give glory to the Lord (verses 1-2). What did the one Samaritan leper remember to do after Jesus cleansed him (Lk. 17:15-18)?
  
2. Like the heavenly angels, we need to worship the Lord in “holy array” (verse 2). How are we to serve our God (Lk. 1:74-75; 2 Cor. 7:1; Eph. 4:24; 1 Thess. 3:13)?
  
3. Like the heavenly angels, we worship a glorious, powerful, and majestic God (verses 1-4). How does Paul describe God (1 Tim. 1:17; 6:15)? How does the Hebrew writer describe where Jesus now sits (Heb. 1:3; 8:1)? How does Jude describe God (Jude 25)?
  
4. The Lord controls the storms and all other parts of his creation (verses 3-9). What does the voice of the Lord control (Job 37-38)? What does God make and do (Mt. 5:45)? What does God give (Acts 14:16-17)? Is God still working today (Jn. 5:17)?
  
5. The voice of the Lord is powerful (verses 3-9). What did the voice of the Lord do in the beginning of time (Gen. 1:3, 6, 9; Psa. 33:9; 148:5)? How powerful is God’s written word – the Bible (Rom. 1:16; Heb. 4:12)?
  
6. The Lord is King over nature and all mankind (verse 10). How does John describe God (Rev. 15:3) and Jesus (Rev. 17:14)?
  
7. The Lord will give his people strength and peace (verse 11). What did Jesus give his disciples (Jn. 14:27; 20:19)? What do we have through our Lord Jesus Christ (Rom. 5:1)? What does the Lord give (2 Thess. 3:16)? What does God supply (Eph. 1:19; 6:10; 1 Pet. 4:11)?