



Sunday, March 13, 2022

Pastor Keith Sovo

## Intro to Psalm 8

Psalm 8 is perhaps one of the most famous texts in the psalms. It is beautiful, yet brief. Practical, yet profound. It addresses one of the most pressing questions facing us in our culture today: what is man? What does it mean to be a human being?

Some have described the time in which we live as the “transgender moment.” This is due in large part to the activism on the part of some to promote a version of humanity that is self-defined, determined largely by feelings (which are fleeting), and has completely abandoned the vision of humanity shared by almost every civilization throughout history—namely, that we are creatures, products of some divine work.

So, what are we, as Christians, to do? Perhaps the most important thing, as at all times, is to pray. We must pray that God would be merciful to those trapped in those lifestyles, that the government would continue to allow Christians to worship and evangelize freely, that righteousness would prevail.

We must also be aware of what is going on and the ideas that contribute to such widespread support for a blatant denial of reality. Our understanding of ourselves has been almost completely divorced from what is inherited—from our social surroundings, to now, our biology. Our understanding of happiness has come to be rooted almost entirely in sexual desire and expression. Our understanding of politics has become very tribal, without much room for compromise. All of these factors (and more) contribute to where we are today.

Finally, we must be absolutely confident in our understanding of humanity as given to us in the Bible. We have been given everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of Christ (2 Pet. 1:3). So, it is important that we hold firmly to the truth of Scripture in answering the question, “what is man?”

**Read and Reflect** *(Use this section to write down any thoughts you had on the sermon. Make sure to note any questions you had about something in the passage or in the sermon.)*

Read Psalm 8; Gen. 1:26-28; Heb. 2:5-9

“What Is Man?”

- I. Part of God’s creation
  - Without knowing God, we cannot know ourselves
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - Our identity is received, not achieved
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- II. Object of God’s affection
  - We are given dignity through dominion
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - We failed to fulfill our purpose
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - Jesus redeems our failure
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- III. Exhibit of God’s glory
  - We glorify God now only as we put on Christ
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - Till all the redeemed reign with Him forever

## **Discuss**

- 1) What are some ideas you've come across in our culture about what it means to be human?
- 2) How does recognizing that we are made in God's image change the way we think about ourselves?
- 3) How does that truth change the way we think about other people (specifically those we don't like, don't know, or don't understand)?
- 4) Why was it necessary for Jesus to be fully human? Of what advantage is that to us?
- 5) Read Revelation 22:1-5. What do you picture in your mind when you read this passage?