

## A THANKSGIVING PRAISE | PSALM 8

DR. RANDY WHITE | NOVEMBER 24, 2019 | TAOS FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

### INTRODUCTION TO THE PSALM

- This is a Psalm written **to the chief Musician**.
  - All Psalms titles should likely be understood to belong to the *previous* Psalm rather than the Psalm to which it is attached in our English Bibles.
  - A mistake was made by the Septuagint translators which has been carried through in all subsequent translations.
  - In the Hebrew, the text was one continuous text with no breaks, making it difficult to know whether the “information line” is a subscript or a superscript.
  - Studies have shown that these titles should be *subscripts* rather than titles (*superscripts*).
- This is a Psalm **upon Muth-labben**, that is, “the death of a giant.”
  - This is likely a reference to Goliath himself.
  - As such, the Psalm rejoices that the imposter is dead and the true Servant now reigns.

### ONE SUPREME LORD | V. 1

- The meaning of the words:
  - This Psalm is one that celebrates the greatness of God on earth.
  - In context, following Psalm 7, there has been the defeat of a great enemy (see Ps. 7:1-2).
  - The greatness of the Lord’s name **in all the earth** is the beginning and the ending of this Psalm.
  - Not only does He have a great name on earth, but He has **set thy glory above the heavens**.
- The application of the words:
  - A thanksgiving life is one that recognizes enemies AND recognizes where the ultimate victory is found.
  - A thanksgiving life is one that is able to see the greatness of God both **in all the earth** and also **above the heavens**.

### ONE SIMPLE LORD | V. 2

- The meaning of the words:
  - The primary reference in this Psalm is **Muth-labben**, “the death of a giant,” namely Goliath.

- Compare 1 Samuel 17:14, 33, 42, 55, 56.
- Our Lord can take a boy and defeat a giant enemy!
- Jesus used these words in Matthew 21:16 in reference to the defeat of the “giants” who were the religious leaders.

- The application of the words:
  - A Thanksgiving life recognizes that we have a Lord that even children can understand.
  - A Thanksgiving life recognizes that we have a Lord that can use even children to accomplish tasks that require the strength of armies.

### ONE SURE LORD | VV. 3-8

- The meaning of the words:
  - With all the vast glory of creation, it is **the work of thy fingers**.
  - God was willing to put this work under the domain of mankind.
  - We know from Hebrews 2:5-8 (along with 1 Cor. 15:27 and Eph. 1:22) that the ultimate fulfillment of these was not in “the first Adam” but in “the last Adam,” Jesus Christ.
- The application of the words:
  - A thanksgiving life recognizes that ultimately Jesus Christ is “the man we can never be,” and thus submits to His authority here and now (Eph. 1:22).
  - A thanksgiving life does not capitulate and claim that “the man I am” can never accomplish the task at hand and thus give the task up to other men. Rather, the thankful life pursues “dominion” as the means of finding meaning and purpose in life.

### ONE SACRED LORD | V. 9

- The meaning of the words:
  - The Psalm comes again to the point at which it started: *God’s name is great in all the earth!*
- The application of the words:
  - The Thanksgiving life finds ways to sing of God’s greatness (musically or otherwise!).
  - The Thanksgiving life recognizes that God has conquered *many giants* in the past, and that all will someday fall, as God alone stands victorious.
  - The biggest “giant” of them all must fall before the Son of Man has dominion, and that giant is the slithering serpent.