

Psalm 8 A Psalm of David

¹Dear LORD Jesus,

You are the LORD of heaven and earth, and you are our LORD too. Your name is the greatest and most majestic name that has ever been uttered on this earth. By meticulously placing each heavenly body in its place and assigning its course through time, you have put your majesty and splendor on display for all to see if they will but look with eyes open to the truth. ² The kindness, gentleness, meekness, and innocence of those who speak Your truth in love are the instruments through which You wield Your strength and power to accomplish two things: first, to bring an end to those revengeful and hateful individuals and nations who are Your enemies, and second, to bring an end to the destructive acts they commit.

³ When I look up and ponder the immensity of the heavens containing all of the celestial bodies You created with Your own hands, or think about the awesome task You performed when You established each heavenly body's course through time, ⁴ I am amazed that You would even stoop to consider a being as puny as mortal man or choose to be a loving and caring father to any of man's children when they place their trust in You. ⁵ Yet You not only look upon the godly man with favor, but You have crowned him with a level of honor and splendor only slightly lower than the angels.¹ ⁶ You have given him dominance over all of the other living creatures on the earth, including ⁷ all domesticated and wild animals, ⁸ all birds of the air, and everything that lives in the seas. ⁹ Because of his privileged position, man's pride often causes him to try to make a great name for himself, but he must never forget that Your name, Jesus Christ, the Messiah,² is the greatest and most majestic name in all the earth, and that Your fame and glory are on display throughout the whole world. LORD, men will never be able to attain to the level of Your majesty because You alone are and always will be the greatest of all.

Your servant, David

¹ The Hebrew word Elohim is the standard word for God in the OT. It is the word "God" in Genesis chapter one. However, it can be used more generally for "divine beings," whether actual or imaginary. E.g., Elohim = false gods in 1 Kings 11:2. This "divine being" concept refers to angels at least in this one place in Ps. 8:5. The reason we know this is that Hebrews 2:7 (cf. v.9) quotes the Septuagint translation of the verse and uses angelos, the standard Greek word for angel, instead of theos, the word for God. (Dr. Ken Casillas)

² For the sake of application, since Christ said in John 14:6, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me," the name "Jesus Christ, the Messiah" has been used.