Scripture: Psalm 29 v 3 to 9

3
The voice of the Lord is over the waters;
the God of glory thunders,
the Lord, over many waters.
4
The voice of the Lord is powerful;
the voice of the Lord is full of majesty.
5
The voice of the Lord breaks the cedars;
the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon.
6
He makes Lebanon to skip like a calf,
and Sirion like a young wild ox.
7
The voice of the Lord flashes forth flames of fire.
8
The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness;
the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.
9
The voice of the Lord makes the deer give birth[c]
and strips the forests bare,
and in his temple all cry, “Glory!”

Subject: The Voice of the Lord.

The subject I want to speak on today is ”The Voce of the Lord”. The 29th Psalm gives a very comprehensive understanding of how the voice of the Lord stands alone without compare. The voice of the Lord is a voice that cannot be compared to any other voice, it is unique because it is the voice of the creator. When we speak, we express our thoughts, but what we express does not have the power to create. We can say let there be but nothing happens, when the Lord speaks it is full of potential to accomplish what is said. I would like to consider certain things regarding the voice of the Lord.

1. The Voice of omnipotence that created the world.

We read in Genesis chapter 1 v 1 to 4. “In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness *was* upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.

And God said, let there be light: and there was light. And God saw the light, that *it was* good: and God divided the light from the darkness.
It is very clear that there was nothing on the earth when God by his Spirt moved across the face of the earth, it was covered with water there was no land just water, it was at this point the voice of omnipotence began to express the words that brought into existence some order to an otherwise formless mass of water. Not only was it without form and void, it was also in darkness.

The first thing the voice of omnipotence did was create light, he then separated light from darkness. God does not dwell in darkness; God is light and light emanates from him. John writing the gospel says in John 1 v 1 to 5 "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not."

In his first epistle chapter 1 v 5. John says "This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all."

It was the voice of omnipotence that created the light, he also furnished the world by his word. After such a magnificent intervention of his word by which he made the heaven and the earth, he could say it was good and after the creation of man it was very good. There is nothing that is impossible for the Lord to do. He can do anything by just saying the word, that is how powerful the voice of omnipotence is. There is a song we sing which say "Show your power oh Lord, one line says He spoke into the darkness created the light. Show your power oh Lord"
Then let's look at Moses.

2. The Voice of omnipotence that challenged Moses.

The day began as it had done over the years Moses looked after and shepherded his father in laws sheep. The sun was beating down upon him with not a cloud in the sky. As he looked after the sheep he saw a bush on fire a normal occurrence in the desert, however this bush burning was different, it wasn't being consumed by the fire.
Moses out of curiosity drew near the bush to see why it wasn't being consumed, he was shocked when a voice the voice of omnipotence spoke to him instructing him to take the shoes off his feet. Moses must have been shocked at that moment, to hear a vice coming out of the burning bush and then instructing him what to do.

We don't read that he hesitated, his response reveals that he possibly had an inclination that it was the voice of the Lord. We don't know much about what transpired in Moses life after he fled from Egypt after killing an Egyptian, we do know he married and looked after his father in laws sheep.

Having an encounter with the Lord, he responds to the challenge the voice of omnipotence challenges him with. Following this experience he has come to recognise the voice of the Lord and as a result Israel is freed from the slavery imposed on them in Egypt.

The voice of omnipotence wrought about miracle after miracle as Moses listened and obeyed the Lord's voice. Moses became attuned to the voice of the Lord. Like Moses we too must become attuned to the voice of the Lord, living a life of obedience.

3. The Voice of omnipotence that commissioned Isaiah.

In Isaiah 6 we read that Isaiah had a vision of the Lord, he also heard the voice too, which said Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord God if hosts. The whole experience revealed to Isaiah how unclean he was, the holiness of God will always show if there is uncleanness.

Isaiah says I am undone, I'm unclean, Isaiah 6 v 6 to 8 says, "Then flew one of the seraphim's unto me, having a live coal in his hand, *which* he had taken with the tongs from off the altar: and in his hand a live coal And he laid *it* upon my mouth, and said, Lo, this hath touched thy lips; and thine iniquity is taken away, and thy sin purged. Also, I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here *am* I; send me."
Isaiah was drawn to the Lord by what he saw and heard, as a prophet he was open to the Lord, his spiritual hearing attuned to listen to what the Lord was showing him, he accepted what the Lord said to him and surrendered to the cleansing process.

Only clean vessels can be commissioned to undertake a ministry ordered by the Lord. When challenged Isaiah said here am I. The voice of omnipotence commissions him.

How submissive are we.? When it comes to being challenged by the Lord. The submissive attitude of Isaiah resulted in him experiencing the cleansing required if he was to be used as a prophet of the Lord. This experience changed him gave him a new perspective of the future. Prior to this he mourned the fact that king Ussiah had died and saw an empty throne, but then the Lord breaks into his life giving him a vision in which he saw the Lord occupying the throne and his robe filling the temple.

Isaiah's vision was a turning point in his life, it transformed him from someone overwhelmed by God's holiness into a prophet who faithfully proclaimed God's word, even when his audience was resistant.

The impact of his experience resulted in him being known as one of the Major prophets of the OT. this is clear in that he prophesied so many prophesies that are

messianic. Isaiah 53 gives specific detail regarding the coming saviour who was to bare the sin of the world. The verses in this chapter are clearly messianic in content declaring in detail that he was wounded for our transgressions and bruised for our iniquities. The chastisement of our peace was upon him and with his stripes we are healed. The voice of omnipotence commissioned Isaiah.

4. The voice of omnipotence that changed Paul.

Acts 9 v 3 to 6, "And as he journeyed, he came near Damascus: and suddenly there shined round about him a light from heaven: And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me? And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: *it is* hard for thee to kick against the pricks. And he trembling and astonished said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do? And the Lord *said* unto him, Arise, and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do."

We read from the opening verses of Acts 9 that Saul, now Paul had secured a document giving him the authority to go to Damascus and arrest the disciples of Jesus and take them to Jerusalem and in-prison them.

His journey to Damascus was interrupted by the intervention from the Lord. Acts 9 v 3 & 4, says "And as he journeyed, he came near Damascus: and suddenly there shined round about him a light from heaven: And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutes thou me?

This divine interruption stooped him in his tracts, the voice of omnipotence arrested him, and charging him with fighting against the promptings of the Lord he had obviously has been experiencing. His response was a question. "Who are you
Lord". The answer that came back must have shaken him, "I am Jesus who you are persecuting."

The Jesus he had denied as Messiah, Jesus the anointed one, Jesus the saviour of the world suddenly he is convinced of the truth that the one he had been persecuting was in fact the Christ, Gods anointed Messiah. This experience Paul had changed him, he was never the same again.

After going into Damascus and meeting Ananias who the Lord had prepared beforehand to meet with Paul. Acts 9 v 17 says “And Ananias went his way and entered into the house; and putting his hands on him said, Brother Saul, the Lord, *even* Jesus, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou calmest, hath sent me, that thou mightiest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost.”

Following this Paul spend some days with the disciples and went and preached Christ in the synagogue that he is the Son of God. He had heard the voice of omnipotence and it changed him. Lastly, I want to mention

5. The voice of omnipotence that captivated John.

John was in exile on the "isle of Patmos, he was banished to there because of his faith in the Lord Jesus and his testimony concerning him. He states he was in the Spirit on the Lords Day. It is at this point that he hears the voice of the Lord.

The voice of omnipotence captivates him and instructs him to write in a book letter to the seven churches of Asia. Theses churches were Ephesus, and unto Smyrna, and unto Pergamos, and unto Thyatira, and unto Sardis, and unto Philadelphia, and unto Laodicea.

The voice of the Lord highlights the things in these churches that needed attention, five needed to repent of things that were wrong in them, only two were commended and didn’t need to repent. John sees the Lord walking among these churches he highlights what was wrong in those churches that needed to be repented of.

Even though John was in exile, he was not separated from the Lord, men exiled him, but they could not isolate him from the Lord, he was in communion and fellowship with the Lord at all times. The lines of communication between him and the Lord remained intact. Separated from the other disciples John was not detached from the Lord.

It was his attachment and close fellowship with the Lord that enabled his hearing making him open to the voice of omnipotence. This voice captivated him and then communicated to him the messages he was to write to each church in Asia.

How vital it is to be in communion with the Lord and open to hear what is being communicated to us. John shows to us that separation from family or friends should not detach us from the Lord. John shows us that however severe the persecution that is endured, it is possible to maintain communion and fellowship wit the Lord.

How powerful the voice of the Lord is as Psalm 29 v 3 to 9 demonstrates.