

#8 Thursday Talk Story February 25, 2010 Praise

“I will sing to the Lord as long as I live...” Psalm 104: 33

For 32 verses the poet remembers and names all the miracles of creation like a documentary of divine wonders. God’s creative power is revealed in the heavens, earth, plants, animals and life. God’s works of creation and providence are overwhelming in their goodness and mystery to the Psalmist. Then in the 33<sup>rd</sup> verse he announces he will sing praise to the Lord his whole life long because of God’s incredible generosity, grace and goodness seen in the creation. No hint that the world and all in it being the result of random accident is found in his cosmology. The poet is convinced and convincing in his testimony that all we see and enjoy in life is gift from God’s hand.

And when we turn over to the letter to the Colossians, Paul asserts an even more awesome position by claiming that Jesus of Nazareth “is the image of the invisible God” and “all things have been created through Him and for Him...and in Him all things hold together.” (Colossians 1: 15 ff.). Jesus Christ the source of all life in Paul’s theology. So Psalm 104 and Colossians are on the same page except Paul goes a step further by saying that God was in Christ creating the world. Sounds like John’s Gospel. “In the beginning was the Word, and Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came in to being through him, and without him not one thing came into being....The Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father’s only son, full of grace and truth.” John 1: 1-3, 14)

Are these just quaint ancient poems and ideas or Truth? Place your bets.

But as days grow longer, the sun shines brighter, and the air feels warmer, we Christians join the Psalmist and Paul on spring days and every day humming, “I will sing to the Lord as long as I live...”.

All praise to you Great God of Jesus of Nazareth for creating all that is and calling it good. We will hum and sing your praises today and every day because we can’t help it.