



The Heavens Declare the Glory of God

Psalm 19

Psalm 8:3-4
Psalm 19

* Psalm 1:1-2

* Psalm 2:7

* Psalm 3:7

* Psalm 4:8

* Psalm 5:2

* Psalm 6:5

* Psalm 7:1

* Psalm 8:3-5

* Psalm 9:7-10

* Psalm 10:17

* Psalm 11:3

* Psalm 12:5

* Psalm 13:5

* Psalm 14:1

* Psalm 15:1

* Psalm 16:10

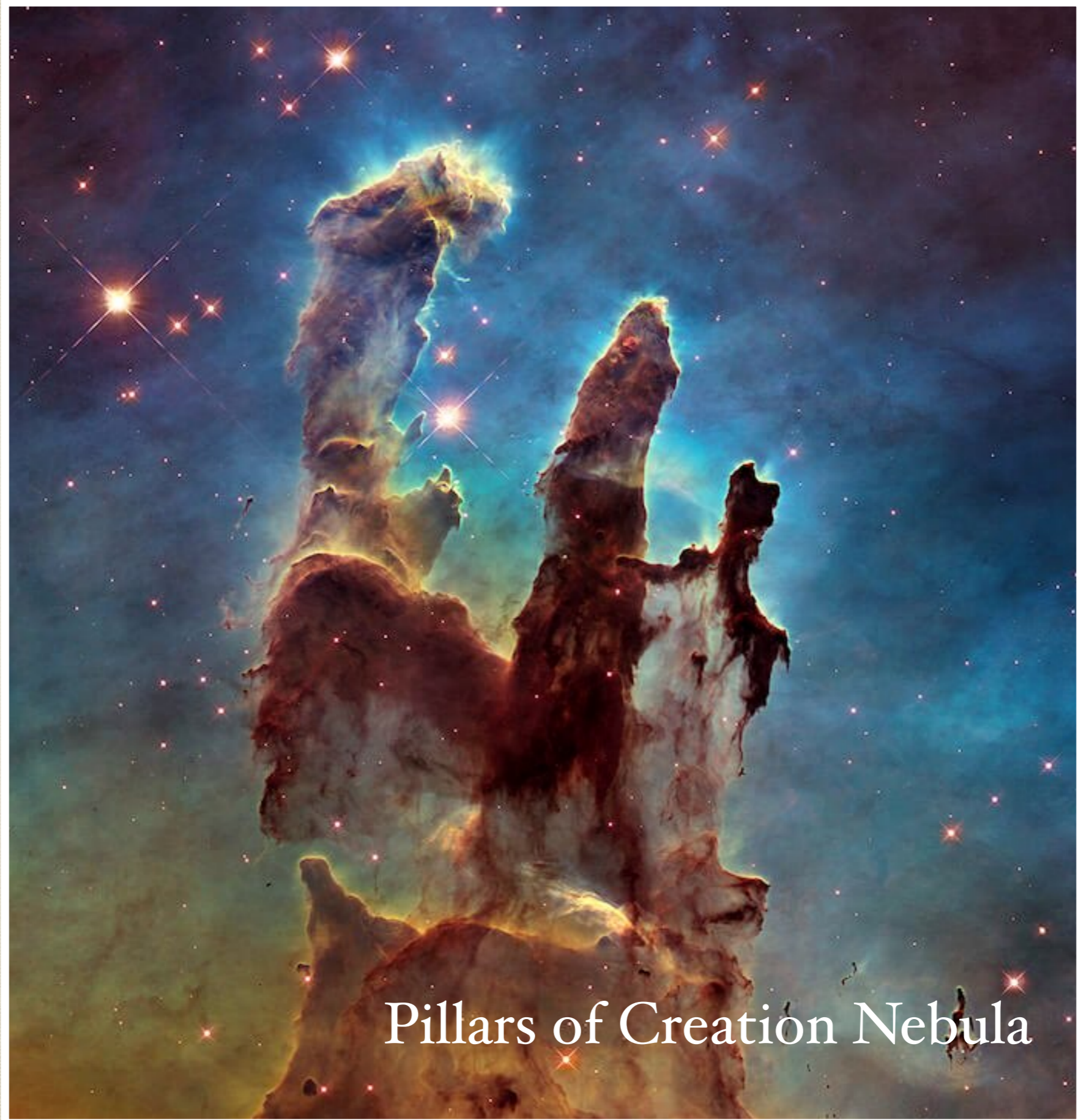
* Psalm 17:4 or 8 or 15

* Psalm 18:2

* Psalm 19:7



Horsehead Nebula



Pillars of Creation Nebula



Cosmic Fireworks



Sombrero Galaxy



Abell 2218



Standout stars



Andromeda Galaxy



Bound together by gravity, galaxies are large collections of stars with interstellar gas and dust. On a clear night, the Milky Way can be seen by the naked eye, but because our eyes cannot distinguish the individual stars that make up the glowing band of light, it appears milky.

It is a spiral galaxy and includes the Solar System. It is a hazy band of light seen in the night sky formed from stars in other arms of the galaxy, which are so far away that they cannot be individually distinguished by the naked eye. It is estimated to contain 100–400 billion stars and at least that number of planets.

Difference between a star and a planet—Stars generate their own light and heat through nuclear fusion in their cores. They emit energy in the form of light and electromagnetic radiation, which makes them visible from great distances. Planets do not produce light but reflect light from stars.

And God made two great lights; the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night: *he made* the stars also. (Genesis 1:16; Psalm 136:7-9)

He telleth the number of the stars; he calleth them all by *their* names. Great *is* our Lord, and of great power: His understanding *is* infinite. (Psalm 147:4-5)

Lift up your eyes on high, and behold who hath created these *things*, that bringeth out their host by number: he calleth them all by names by the greatness of his might, for that *he is* strong in power; not one faileth. (Isaiah 40:26)

Canst thou bind the sweet influences of Pleiades, or loose the bands of Orion? (Job 38:31)

When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained; What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou visitest him?
(Psalm 8:3-4)

Introduction.—Psalm 19 is perhaps the best known and most popular of the nature psalms. It is a grateful meditation of God's revelation of himself in the world of nature and in his law. In the first six verses of the psalm David speaks of God's glory as seen in His created works; then he speaks of God's glory as shown in the law.

- * Law of the LORD (Torah)—teaching, instruction, direction, all the revealed will of God—As the sun illuminates and gives life to the material earth, so the law lights and energizes the spiritual world.
- * Testimony of the LORD—Witness
- * Statutes of the LORD—Precepts, instructions
- * Commandments of the LORD—Orders, directions
- * Fear of the LORD—Fear, reverence, holy fear
- * Judgments of the LORD—Righteous decisions

- * Redeemer—*go'el*—deliverer. Genesis 3:15; Job 19:25; Isaiah 44:22
- * Therefore the redeemed of the Lord shall return, and come with singing unto Zion; and everlasting joy *shall be* upon their head: they shall obtain gladness and joy; *and* sorrow and mourning shall flee away. I, *even* I, *am* he that comforteth you: who *art* thou, that thou shouldst be afraid of a man *that* shall die, and of the son of man *which* shall be made *as* grass; And forgettest the LORD thy maker, that hath stretched forth the heavens, and laid the foundations of the earth . . . (Isaiah 51:11–13)

- * Psalm 19:1-6—skies and heavens; Romans 10:18 quotes v. 4
- * Psalm 104:1-35—about God's creation
- * Psalm 8:1-9—moon and stars, creation of the world
- * Psalm 148:1-14—sun, moon, stars, waters, sea creatures
- * Psalm 96:11-12—nature in active worship
- * Psalm 65:9-13—God's care of the earth
- * Psalm 95:4-5—depths of earth, heights of mountains
- * Psalm 29—voice of God in lightning, thunder, shaking of wilderness
- * Psalm 104:10-13—God gives water to his creatures and sustains life
- * Psalm 36:8 and Psalm 93—God's creativity, need for environmental stewardship

Creator and the Law

- * Exodus 20:11
- * Revelation 14:7
- * Exodus 31:13, 17
- * Luke 4:16
- * Ezekiel 20:12, 20

The Sabbath is not introduced as a new institution but as having been founded at creation. It is to be remembered and observed as the memorial of the Creator's work. Pointing to

God as the *Maker* of the heavens and the earth, it distinguishes the true God from all false gods. All who keep the seventh day signify by this act that they are worshipers of Jehovah. Thus the Sabbath is the sign of man's allegiance to God as long as there are any upon the earth to serve Him.

The fourth commandment is the only one of all the ten in which are found both the name and the title of the Lawgiver.

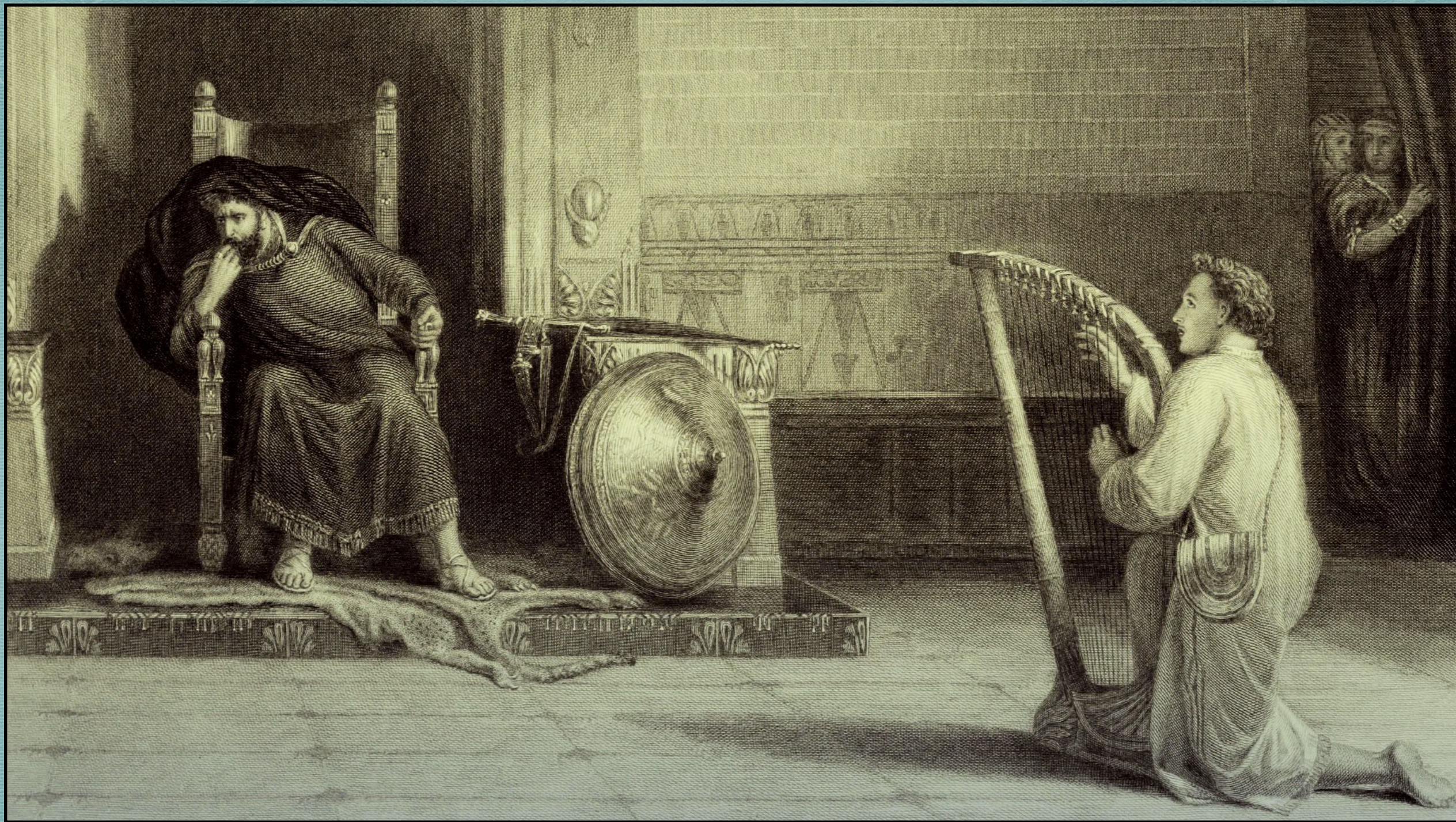
It is the only one that shows by whose authority the law is given. Thus it contains the seal of God, affixed to His law as evidence of its authenticity and binding force. (*PP* 307.2)

David and His Music



King Saul and Samuel

I Samuel 15:13-23



King Saul and David

1 Samuel 16:14:-23

When King Saul realized that he had been rejected by God, and when he felt the force of the words of denunciation that had been addressed to him by the prophet, he was filled with bitter rebellion and despair. It was not true repentance that had bowed the proud head of the king. He had no clear perception of the offensive character of his sin, and did not arouse to the work of reforming his life, but brooded over what he thought was the injustice of God in depriving him of the throne of Israel and in taking the succession away from his posterity. He was ever occupied in anticipating the ruin that had been brought upon his house. He felt that the valor which he had displayed in encountering his enemies should offset his sin of disobedience. (*PP* 643)

He did not accept with meekness the chastisement of God; but his haughty spirit became desperate, until he was on the verge of losing his reason. His counselors advised him to seek for the services of a skillful musician, in the hope that the soothing notes of a sweet instrument might calm his troubled spirit. In the providence of God, David, as a skillful performer upon the harp, was brought before the king. His lofty and heaven-inspired strains had the desired effect. The brooding melancholy that had settled like a dark cloud over the mind of Saul was charmed away. (*PP* 643)

When his services were not required at the court of Saul, David returned to his flocks among the hills and continued to maintain his simplicity of spirit and demeanor. Whenever it was necessary, he was recalled to minister before the king, to soothe the mind of the troubled monarch till the evil spirit should depart from him. But although Saul expressed delight in David and his music, the young shepherd went from the king's house to the fields and hills of his pasture with a sense of relief and gladness. (*PP* 643)

- * Psalm—*mizmor*—Psalm 11—a song to be sung to the accompaniment of stringed instruments. It occurs in the superscriptions of 57 psalms.
- * Song—*shir*. Psalm 46. This word appears in the superscription of 29 psalms. Sung, played on an instrument, or both.
- * *Michtam*—Psalm 16—Possibly something written like a poem, but meaning is uncertain.
- * *Maschil*—Psalm 44—*Maschil* may indicate an instructive psalm or a contemplative poem, uncertain musical term, a memory passage? Or wisdom song performed to music?
- * *Sheminith*—Psalm 12—means eighth but is an unknown musical term

* I Chronicles 13:8

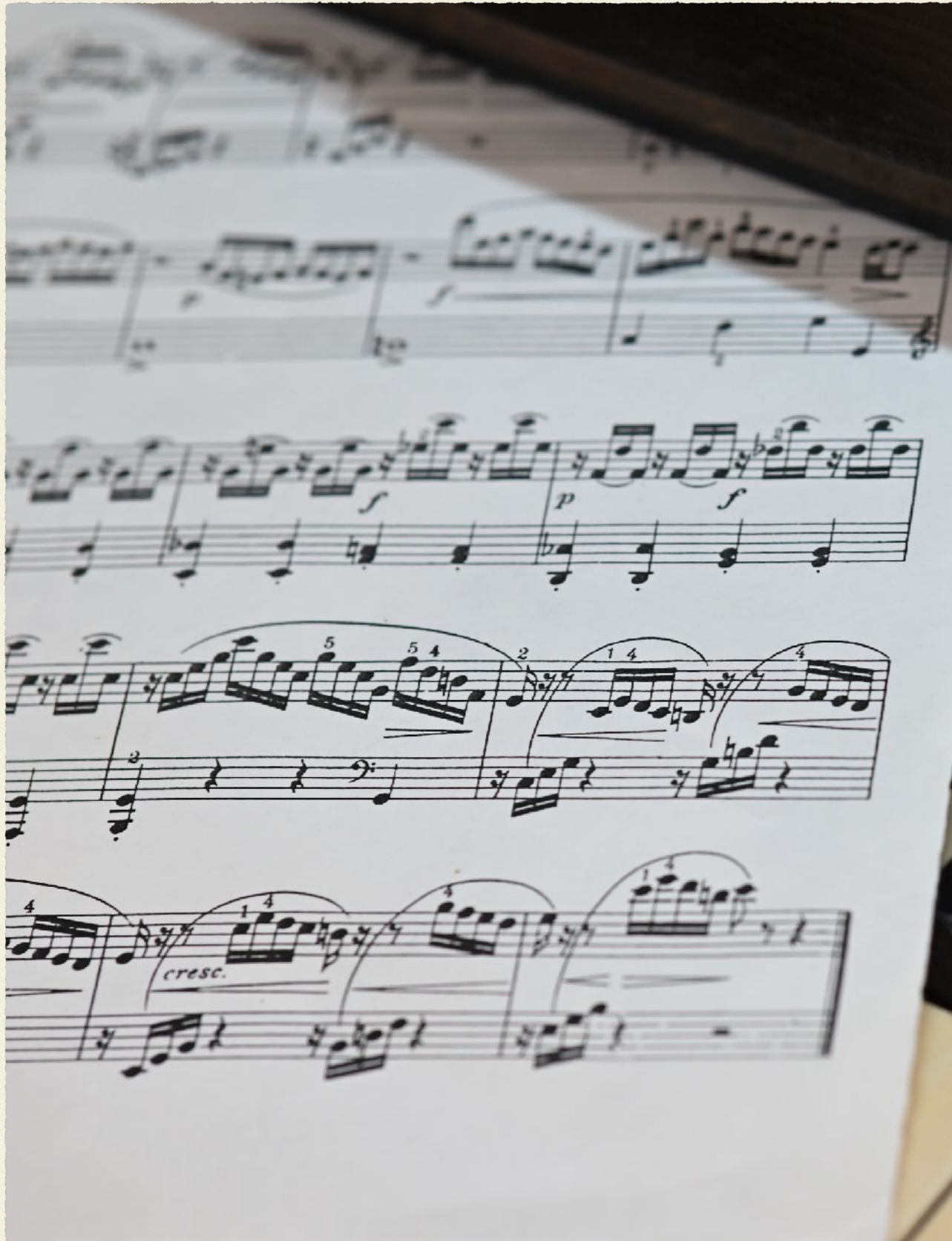
* I Chronicles 15:16

* I Chronicles 25:1-7

* Amos 6:5

* Psalm 57:7-9

* Psalm 144:9



MÜN

Wilh. Hohra











The condition of the unbelieving Jews illustrates the condition of the careless and unbelieving among professed Christians, who are willingly ignorant of the work of our merciful High Priest. In the typical service, when the high priest entered the most holy place, all Israel were required to gather about the sanctuary and in the most solemn manner humble their souls before God, that they might receive the pardon of their sins and not be cut off from the congregation. How much more essential in **this antitypical Day of Atonement** that we understand the work of our High Priest and know what duties are required of us. (GC 430.3)

Christ took upon Him human nature, that He might be able to sympathize with all hearts.... His spirit was never so full of worldly cares that He had no time or thought for the heavenly. He could give evidence of His cheerfulness by singing psalms and heavenly songs. The people of Nazareth often heard His voice raised in praise and thanksgiving to God. He often held communion with heaven in song, and all who were associated with Him, who often complained of their weariness of labor, were cheered by the sweet melody that fell from His lips. His praises seemed to drive away the evil angels and, as incense, filled the room with sweet fragrance. (C*Tr* 244.3)

The house of God may be very humble in comparison with the temple of Solomon, but it is no less acknowledged by God. To those who worship there it is the gate of heaven, if they worship God in spirit and in truth, and in the beauty of holiness. As songs of praise are sung, as earnest fervent prayers arise to heaven, as lessons are repeated of the wondrous works of God, as the heart's gratitude is expressed in prayer and song, angels from heaven take up the strain and unite in praise and thanksgiving to God. (C*Tr* 244.4)

These exercises drive back the power of Satan. They expel murmuring and complaints, and Satan loses ground. God teaches us that we should assemble in His house to cultivate the attributes of perfect love. This will fit the dwellers of earth for the mansions Christ has gone to prepare for them that love Him. Then they will assemble in the sanctuary from Sabbath to Sabbath, from one new moon to another, to unite in loftier strains of song, in thanksgiving and praise to Him who sitteth upon the throne, and to the Lamb forever and ever. (C*Tr* 244.5)

Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and
spiritual songs, singing and making melody in
your heart to the Lord; (Ephesians 5:19)