A dramatic seascape with a dark, stormy sky and a bright horizon over the ocean. The sky is filled with dark, heavy clouds, with a bright light source breaking through near the horizon, creating a strong contrast. The ocean is dark and choppy, with small waves visible. The overall mood is somber and powerful.

Psalm 29

Elements Class

April 10th 10:45am

(1) Ascribe to the
LORD, O heavenly
beings, ascribe to the
LORD glory and
strength.



(2) Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness.



Ascribe to the LORD the glory
due his name...



4 times in 2 verses David calls the heavenly hosts & world to **'ascribe to'** the Lord and **'worship'** the Lord.



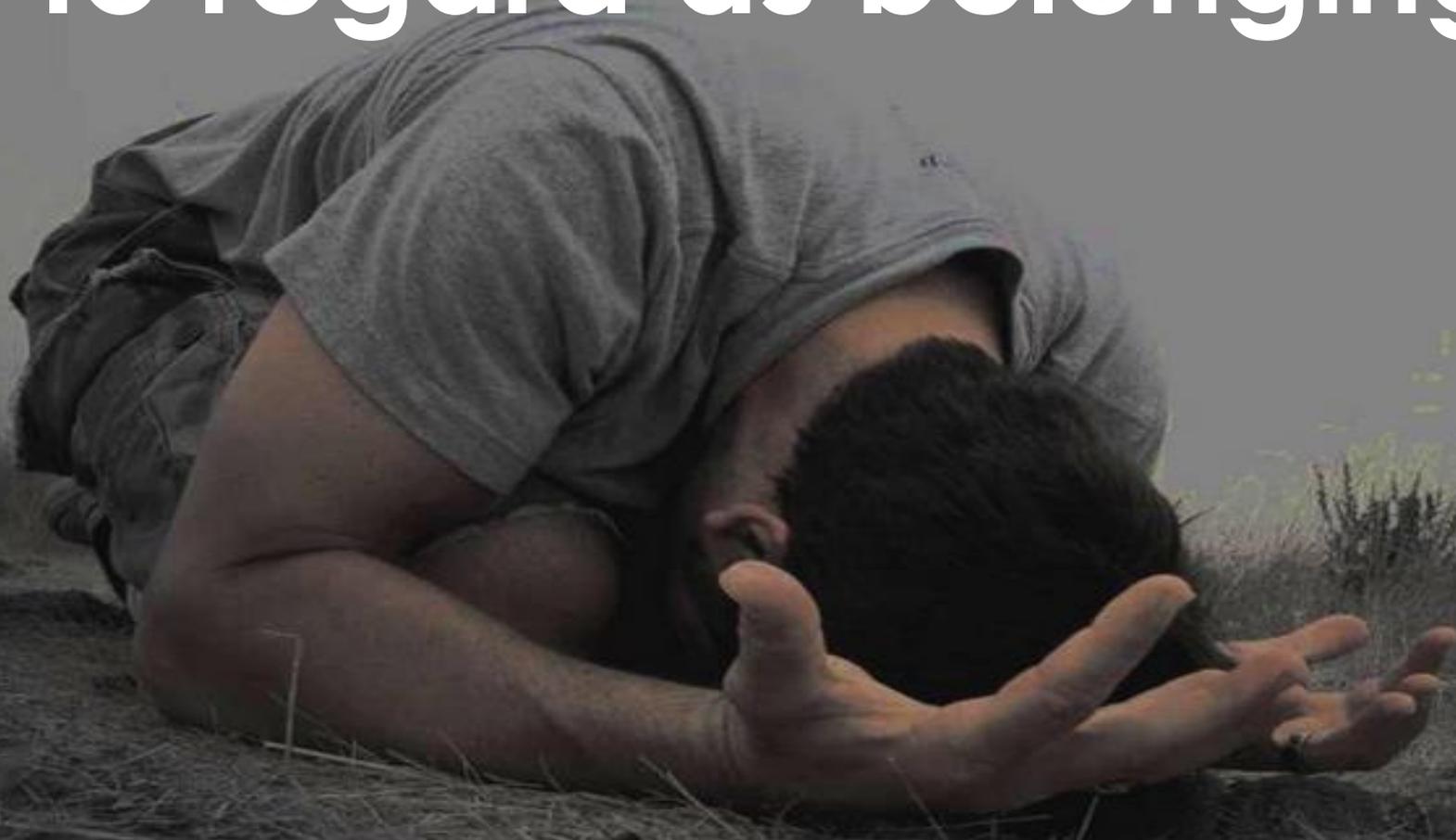
The word **‘ascribe’** literally means
‘to give’ ‘to choose’ ‘to come’





The
contextual
meaning
is something
much more
specific.

The direct meaning is
'to attribute to'
'to regard as belonging to'



*Ascribe to the LORD the glory
due his name...*



We should define it as:
**'to attribute to the
Lord the value
belonging to him'**

We should define it as:

**‘to regard the Lord in
proportion to his worth’**

More thoroughly:

**To value and regard the Lord
in our affections & actions
as supremely valuable
and worthy.**

How much glory, honor and
majesty is truly due the name of
the Lord?



We must conclude (reality):

**All glory, all honor, all
majesty are belonging to the
Lord, fully, supremely and
infinitely!**

We must confess (respond):

**That we regularly fall utterly
short of honoring & regarding
the Lord as fully, supremely
and infinitely valuable!**

4 times David directs the universe
and its inhabitants to
ascribe certain qualities to God...
and to worship him for those traits.



(1) Glory (v1)

(2) Strength (v1)

(3) Glory (v2)

(4) Holiness (v2)

The rest of the Psalm goes on to show
the universe and its inhabitants
why they should
ascribe these to God...



Glory

The word 'glory' is ascribed to God
4 times in 10 verses.

This masculine word means;
honorable, glorious, majestic

Strength

The word 'strength' or 'power' is used **3x** and **12 total power words are used** (*thunders, breaks, strikes, shakes, twists, strips etc.*) in describing the actions of God.

This masculine word means; power,
might, fortress.

Holiness

This masculine word means; **set apart, sacred, perfection.**

*Ascribe to the LORD the glory
due his name...*



God wants our valuing, our
praising & our worshipping to
be specific.

God wants us to ascribe
(1) a certain nature to a
(2) a certain name, being.

God wants to be known and
worshipped **'accurately'** or
'accordingly' not **'vaguely'**
or **'vicariously'**.

According to David in Psalm 29,
God wants to be worshipped as;

Yahweh, an all mighty, ever powerful,
glorious and totally perfect, set apart
and distinct, male, God.

Yahweh (only), used 18x in 11 verses, 2x in all but 2 verses.

The implications are that
false/unacceptable worship
either does not honor God for
the correct qualities (nature)
or does not honor
the correct God (name)
or is not done with the
correct affections (incentive).

The **why**, **the who**, and
the how of worship is
incredibly important.

The rest of the Psalm goes on to show
the universe and its inhabitants

why they should
ascribe these to God...



(3) The voice of the LORD is over the waters;
the God of glory thunders, the LORD, over
the flood.



(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 mountains; the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.





(9) The voice of the LORD makes the deer
give birth and strips the forests bare,
and in his temple all cry, "Glory!"

8 times in 7 verses David calls attention to 'the voice of the Lord'.



David refers to the voice of the Lord
as **'over all'** **'powerful'** **'majestic'**
and **'a breaking force'**



David uses 7 'power phrases' to describe the voice of the Lord.

(1) Thunders

(2) Powerful

(3) Breaks

(4) Strikes

(5) Shakes

(6) Twists

(7) Strips

David is trying to get us
to understand the raw
**power simply from
God speaking.**

(the power in the word of God)



David harkens back to the **pre-creation voice** of the Lord, **hovering over the waters**...the voice that called everything into being, before the audience of the heavenly hosts.



David illustrates how **creation responds** (and humanity should respond) to the voice of the Lord. It should **'tremble in awe'** it should **'shake in reverent fear'** it should **'respond in obedience'**.



Continuing the previous thoughts on 'ascribing to the Lord the glory due his name' because of his nature; power & majesty etc.

David says that true
worship is done
**in response to the
voice of the Lord.**

Because: His voice is the
source of **the visibility**
of his nature (glory, strength
& holiness) **displayed in**
creation.

Because: His voice is the source of the knowledge of his name (Yahweh, Jehovah, Christ) displayed in scripture.

It is by the voice of the Lord
that his nature & name are
known and that humanity is
able to respond (ascribe)
accordingly.

(10) The LORD sits enthroned over the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as king forever.



(v10) Reality:

Because of the Lord's nature,
and name **he is truly** infinitely,
supremely & eternally
valuable & above all, creator of
all and ruler of all.

(11) May the LORD give strength to his people!
May the LORD bless his people with peace!



(v11) Responsibility:

Because of the Lord's nature,
and name he demands
a response, namely to his
revealing voice.

If humanity
responds accurately to the
reality of God, and 'ascribes to
the Lord the glory due his
name...' they will receive
strength, blessing and peace
(v11).

If humanity
responds inaccurately to the reality
of God, and does not 'ascribe to
the Lord the glory due his name...'
they will be **broken (v5) one the run
(v6) stripped bare (v9) and
consumed by the flames (v7)**

SUMMARY



#1

God is the **ultimate reality** in the universe. The ultimate being. The ultimate beauty.

#2

It is not only **mankind's duty**,
but **deepest longing** and
greatest joy to ascribe to
Lord the glory, honor and
praise due his name.

#3

God wants us to worship him
according to his true nature
and true name.

#4

The only way to know God's true nature & name is to see what he has spoken into being in the world & his word.

#5

All who ascribe to God the glory due his name and have him as their highest value & joy will receive the life, blessing, joy & peace that comes from being with him.

#6

**All who fail to ascribe to
him their highest value & joy will
ultimately receive pain,
punishment and separation from
him.**