

# He Is There and He Is Not Silent

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### Key idea:

The fundamental reality is that God exists and He is speaking to us through creation and the Scriptures, and we are called to respond in prayer and personal relationship with Him.

### Key text:

Psalm 19

The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. <sup>2</sup> Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they display knowledge. <sup>3</sup> There is no speech or language where their voice is not heard. <sup>4</sup> Their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world. In the heavens he has pitched a tent for the sun, <sup>5</sup> which is like a bridegroom coming forth from his pavilion, like a champion rejoicing to run his course. <sup>6</sup> It rises at one end of the heavens and makes its circuit to the other; nothing is hidden from its heat. <sup>7</sup> The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul. The statutes of the Lord are trustworthy, making wise the simple. <sup>8</sup> The precepts of the Lord are right, giving joy to the heart. The commands of the Lord are radiant, giving light to the eyes. <sup>9</sup> The fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever. The ordinances of the Lord are sure and altogether righteous. <sup>10</sup> They are more precious than gold, than much pure gold; they are sweeter than honey, than honey from the comb. <sup>11</sup> By them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward. <sup>12</sup> Who can discern his errors? Forgive my hidden faults. <sup>13</sup> Keep your servant also from willful sins; may they not rule over me. Then will I be blameless, innocent of great transgression. <sup>14</sup> May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer.

### Key points:

1. God speaks to us through creation, revealing His existence, His power, and our accountability to Him.
2. God's revelation in creation is known as general revelation because it is immediately available to everyone and because the content of this revelation is very broad and general in nature.

3. The LORD speaks to us through His written Word, the Scripture, revealing Himself as the Personal God Who offers to forgive our sins through Jesus Christ and His Gospel.
4. God's revelation in Scripture is known as special revelation because it is not immediately available to everyone and it is much more detailed and specific in its revelation of God and how we may know Him through the Gospel of Christ.
5. We respond to God's Word by hearing and heeding it, confessing our sins, and drawing near to God in a personal relationship and growing in our desire to please Him.

**Questions for discussion/application:**

1. What part of Sunday's teaching stood out most to you? Why?
2. Why should we expect God to be revealed in creation? If God exists, should we expect to find evidence of Him in the works He has made?
3. How is general revelation helpful for me as a Christian? Can I think of times when God spoke to me through His creation? What are the limits of general revelation?
4. Why should the idea of God's general revelation in creation give me hope and confidence in reaching out to others with the Gospel?
5. If God is revealed in creation (general revelation), why do I need the Bible (special revelation)? What things can I learn from special revelation that I can not learn from general revelation?
6. If God is the "author" of both books of revelation - creation and Scripture - will they be in conflict with one another? Why or why not? What should I do when they seem to conflict?
7. Why does the Psalmist move to confessing his sins after the section on the Scripture rather than the section on creation? Why does the written Scripture produce this awareness and confession of sin?
8. What is God's goal in His revelation to us? What does He want from us as we consider His revelation of Himself to us?
9. How can I hear God's Word to me more clearly this week? What specific steps will I take to hear and heed God's Word?

10. Who will I call to encourage in God's Word this week? What specific members of BRCC will I commit before God to call?