

Readings for the week of Jan. 7/24

Genesis 1:1-5

Psalm 29

Acts 19:1-7

Mark 1:4-11

Psalm 29:4 reminds us that, *"The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is full of majesty."*

The power of God's voice is shown to us numerous times in Scripture. Let's look at three examples;

In the Genesis reading, we are reminded of the creative power of God's voice. Everything in this world was created when God spoke it into being.

In Mark's Gospel Reading, we are told about how God spoke words of affirmation, to His Son, Jesus. God said to Him, *"You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."* {Mark 1:11)

At the end of the Age, we read in Revelation 22:20, *He who testifies to these things says (Jesus), "Surely I am coming soon." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!*

Through these words, God shows His love for mankind, His affirmation of His Son, Jesus. And, He confirms the Reason for our Blessed Hope. For those who have made room for Him, and asked Jesus Christ to come into their lives, He assures us that He is coming soon.

Each of these examples, shows us that God's voice signals that something new is happening. We see the beginning of all Creation, the beginning of Jesus' earthly ministry, and the beginning of our new life with Christ, when He returns for His children, who will be with Him for all of Eternity.

Before the end of the Age comes, I encourage anyone who has not responded to God's voice, His invitation to come, just as you are...now is the time, to do so! Matthew 24:36 reminds us that no one knows the day or hour of Christ's return.