

# OpenTheo

## The Gospel Scope & Art

July 3, 2022



### For The King - Rocky Ramsey

What is truly beautiful? By what standard can we call something beautiful?

Key Texts: Psalm 27:4 & Hebrews 12:2

Fountain.fm -> <https://fountain.fm/show/U78tm316mhRmq1LFZ6HS>

Website: [forthe kingpodcast.com](http://forthe kingpodcast.com)

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/For-The-King-105492691873696/>

Gab page: <https://gab.com/ForTheKingPod>

Contact: [forthe kingpodcast@gmail.com](mailto:forthe kingpodcast@gmail.com)

Donate Crypto: <https://commerce.coinbase.com/checkout/f63fd7db-919e-44f6-9c58-8ec2891f3eb5>

Kingly Clothing: <https://www.bonfire.com/store/for-the-king/>

--- Support this podcast: <https://podcasters.spotify.com/pod/show/rocky-ramsey/support>

## Transcript

(music) Don't think I will even ask you to make Jesus Lord of your life. That's the most preposterous thing I could ever tell you to do. Jesus Christ is Lord of your life.

Whether you serve him or not, whether you bless him, curse him, hate him, or love him, he is the Lord of your life because God has given him a name that is above every name, so that the name of Jesus Christ every knee shall bow, and tongue confess that he is Lord. Some of you will bow out of the grace that has been given to you, and others will bow because your kneecaps will be broken by the one who rules the nations with a rod of iron. And I'll not apologize for this God of the Bible.

(music) One thing I have asked from the Lord that I shall seek, that I may dwell in the

house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord and to meditate in his temple. Hello everybody, welcome to the For the King podcast. On this podcast we proclaim the edicts of the king, namely that Yahweh reigns.

I'm your host, Rocky Ramsey. In the past, on the podcast, I've been joined by my brother Bryce. He just had a kid, he's been very busy, so we are going to switch the model of the podcast now a little bit, because he's no longer to really do this with me, so if you enjoyed Bryce more than me, I'm sorry you're stuck with me now.

But Bryce will no longer be with me on the podcast, and I want to do, because it's just me now, and I think it just kind of was a little burdensome in the frequency we were uploading podcasts before, I'm going to switch to one podcast a week, I will do two a month that are a Sunday series episode, where I'm dealing with a theological topic or some kind of theological application for the world. And the two other weeks, I will release something on Wednesday that's me interviewing a guest or having an interesting discussion with somebody. That's my goal, maybe not every one of those odd Wednesdays, but I'm going to try my best to do that.

So this episode, I am talking about, continuing the conversation that I had with Will, the last upload of the podcast, about beauty. But now I want to attach, continuing in the Sunday series we've been doing about the gospel scope, the scope of the gospel, how the gospel is applied in real time, in history, in the world. I want to now use some of the principles that Will and I talked about on our Beauty Art in the Created Order episode.

I would really encourage you to go back and listen to Will and I talk about that. Will is a professional artist, so he was a brother in Christ, so he had some really good insight, and we had a good discussion about beauty. Now I want to talk about it in terms of the gospel.

So I started off with Psalm 27, that specific ending of the verse, I guess, 27 to 4b, that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life to behold the beauty of the Lord and to meditate in his temple. So that word for beauty is also found in Proverbs 3, 17, in Proverbs 15, 26, Proverbs 16, 24, a few other places in the scriptures, and it's not translated as beauty in any of the other instances that it's found. I think it's seven other instances on the Old Testament.

And the ones in Proverbs are usually talking about the way of the wise, and especially in Proverbs 3, 17 there, it's talking about the godly woman, the woman of wisdom, the pleasant woman. Her ways are pleasant and all her paths are peace. But here in Psalm 27, we're beholding, the reason it's translated beauty here is because of the context of the actual sentence, to behold the favor of the world, to behold the pleasantness of the Lord.

You know, favor and pleasantness actually doesn't work there. Beauty is what works best

in that context, and it's good to behold God's delightfulness, his beauty, his pleasantness. That is such a beautiful verse, and it really is the only place in the scriptures where we have the word beauty, the word beauty being depicted, and it's to cast our eyes to behold God, the Lord, Yahweh.

And I want to couple this with, when we think about the gospel, and the scope of the gospel, with Hebrews 12, verse 2, which says, "Fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God." So we are to cast our gaze, we are to behold and fix our eyes on our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. He is the one that is beautiful, his life, his death, his burial, his resurrection, and now, obviously, his mediatorial work from the right hand of the Father. That is beautiful.

We are to fix our eyes on this Jesus and constantly be beholding him in his temple, in the house of the Lord, high and lifted up in the throne room of God. We are to constantly be setting our mind on these things. So, beauty, as Will and I were talking about, is not in the eye of the beholder.

It's not something subjective. The Bible defines beauty for us. I'm a presuppositional apologist, and what that means to be a presuppositionalist is you are always having a battle of presuppositions, of starting principles that you take as a brute fact.

You take that they are just inherently true, and there's nothing you can do to prove them. Prove why you have these starting assumptions. So, in the atheistic worldview, you would have people appealing to the scientific method as their methodology of arriving at truth.

So, then you would ask them, "Can the scientific method prove that the scientific method works?" Well, no. You have to use the laws of logic and reason to actually use the scientific method. There's already a presupposition underlying the scientific method to help us get some inductive truth.

So, then we would have to assess where does logic and reason come from. Well, those come from the mind of God. They're intuitive to the human, but they are not something that's built upon.

You have to learn them and discover them. Hopefully, that makes sense when I'm trying to get out here. So, we look at these presuppositions, and the presupposition when we're talking about art and beauty is that God is what is beautiful.

When we think about precious metals and precious stones, they are inherently beautiful. Gems, topaz, gold, sapphire, emerald, silver, all these precious metals or stones, gems, things like that. They are beautiful and valuable because God made them so.

God has created them scarce, they're hard to find, and they're beautiful. And because

these things are inherently beautiful, they are inherently valuable, and they have their inherent value found in God. He is the source of all truth, the source of all beauty, the source of all goodness in the world.

We can trace them back to Him. So, that's really my exhortation for this short podcast, this short Sunday series in our thinking about the gospel scope of beauty and art, and art is that Jesus is the perfect piece of beauty, piece of art. He is the founder and perfecter of our faith, and we ought to cast our gaze on Him at all times to be looking to Him.

And if we're going to try to find anything beautiful in the world, it has to be founded on principles that God has put into the world. They can't be anything arbitrary. If it's arbitrary, then humans inherently want to rebel against it because if it's arbitrary, then why are you trying to bind me with it? But beauty being found in God, we can actually look at a piece of art that's based on God's principles and say, "Wow, that's a beautiful piece of art." And we can even say, even more so, "Wow, Jesus Christ, what a beautiful Savior, a beautiful incarnate God, the God-Man, what a beautiful person." We could say this about our great Savior, Jesus Christ.

So that's my exhortation for this podcast. Remember that the gospel most certainly applies to art and beauty. And when you see a dumb piece of art that makes no sense and is not ordered, it's chaotic, and it wasn't difficult, there was no work put into it, and somebody tries to call art and say, "No, my God doesn't work like that.

My God is a God of order, not a God of chaos." And that is why things are beautiful in the world. So I wanted to end with a quick note on where I've been putting my podcast or a new platform I've been using. There's a podcast catcher, a podcast app called Fountain.fm, and on that podcast, you get paid in satoshis, the smallest unit of Bitcoin.

It's a one-hundred-millionth of a Bitcoin. That's what a satoshi is. You get paid in satoshis just for listening to your favorite podcast.

So go on to Fountain.fm. This isn't, I obviously didn't get paid to do this plug or whatever. I just am personally using it because I love listening to podcasts, so why not get paid while doing it? And also a cool thing you can do with it is the satoshis you earn, you can give to some of your favorite podcasts. You can donate to them to support the podcast.

So if you want to get that app and start listening on there, that'd be a really easy way for you to support me on this podcast. It wouldn't cost you anything. It would just be you listening to podcasts and donating these very small fractions of Bitcoin.

And they might be one-hundredth of a cent, but if you have a hundred people do that, then hey, that's a penny. And I'd gladly take a penny for the work I'm putting in for this podcast. So I just wanted to exhort you guys to that.

And as always, I end with the doxology from 1 Timothy 1:17 to the king of the ages, a

mortal and visible. The only God be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

Soli Deo Gloria. Thank you.