

# Oak Grove Church of Christ Newsletter - 2024.01.21

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## Sermon recordings

Click or type the short URL, or visit oakgrovecofc.org/Sermons.

**Speaker-AM:** Jamie Rinehart

**Title:** Storms

**Recording:**

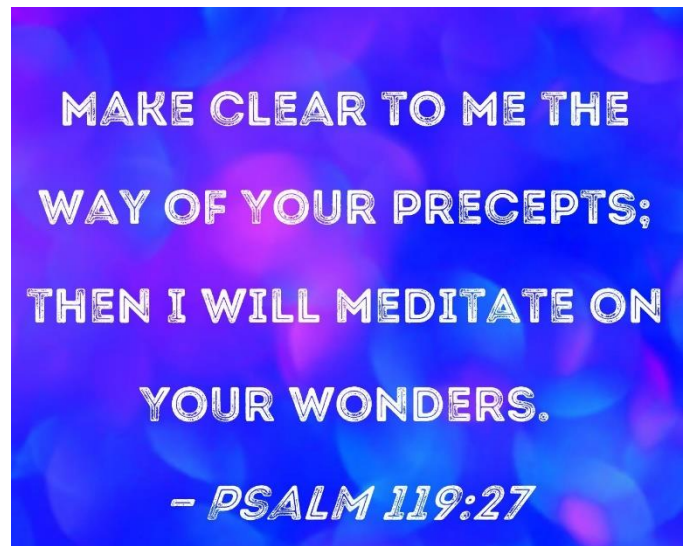
[oakgrovecofc.org/sermons/storms](http://oakgrovecofc.org/sermons/storms)

**Speaker-PM:** Robbie Moreland

**Title:** Psalm 119

**Recording:**

[oakgrovecofc.org/sermons/psalm-119](http://oakgrovecofc.org/sermons/psalm-119)



### Let It Snow, 1/20/2024 By Sam Bunyard

As Elihu described the power of God, he said, “God thunders marvelously with His voice; He does great things which we cannot comprehend. For He says to the snow, ‘Fall on the earth’; likewise, to the gentle rain and heavy rain of His strength... by the breath of God ice is given, and the broad waters are frozen” (Job 37:5-6, 10). When God spoke of His own power, He asked Job, “Have you entered the treasury of snow, or have you seen the treasury of hail, which I have reserved for the time of trouble?” (38:22-23). How great is our God that He has made snow – and as abundant and unique as His people!

Not only has God made the snow, but He uses it to sustain His creation. As snow melts, it provides fresh water to replenish the earth and give life to vegetation. God used this process to describe the way His word affects the hearts of sinners. “As the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, and do not return there, but water the earth, and make it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it” (Is. 55:10-11).

If we allow God’s word to accomplish its purpose in our lives, we will be like the soil of Spring that soaks in the freshwater of melted snow and brings forth new life! And by this process, we will become pure like snow ourselves! “Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow” (Is 1:18)! I’m not much of a snow lover, but even I can appreciate the spiritual truths God’s creation can teach us. So, I say, “Let it snow!”



## **Earthly Politics Versus the Almighty, 1/29/2024 by Terry Wane Benton**

"Whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to Him who sits on the throne, who lives forever and ever" (Revelation 4:9).

In John's vision "up here" he sees the living creatures giving honor, glory, and thanks to God on the throne, and he knows that God is eternal, while the men on earth that fight against the church are not even in charge of their own lives. They die. They are temporary! Keep this viewpoint in front of your mind, and then notice the twenty-four leaders who served God on earth. Are they disappointed that they served God on earth? Look and see!

"The twenty-four elders fall down before Him who sits on the throne and worship Him who lives forever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying" (Revelation 4:10).

These twenty-four elders are before the throne, and they have "crowns" of life, but it seems that even the crown of their reward for faithfulness is as nothing compared to their amazing view of seeing the glory of the One who sits on the throne. They "cast their crowns before the throne" which means that nothing is more important to them than the honor of seeing the glory of the One on the throne. They don't feel worthy of their crowns. All honor belongs to God. John sees them cast their crowns down before the throne as they say:

"You are worthy, O Lord,  
To receive glory and honor and power;  
For You created all things,  
And by Your will they exist and were created" (Revelation 4:11 NKJV).

They don't feel worthy of their crowns. They feel that only God is truly worthy to receive glory, honor, and power. Our very existence is totally dependent on Him. Thus, if these twenty-four do not feel worthy of glory, honor, and power, then what of Nebuchadnezzar in the past or Nero in the present? Any crown they had is as nothing. Any "power" that they held is as nothing in comparison.

When you come up in this vision with John, you truly see that human powers on earth are nothing in comparison to the One on the throne. If we fear the powers of earthly forces, we need to see what John sees. We need to let the vision of John in the Spirit captivate our full attention. If we have "ears to hear" what the Spirit is speaking through John's vision, we will fully believe that no political powers or rulers on earth deserve the power. Their very lives "exist" by the Creator's will, and they have only the power God allows them to have. God is far greater! God is "worthy" of our full admiration and godly reverence! Don't let the raging storms on the political scene distract you from seeing the One who walks on those waters! Come up here and get your focus back in the right place! Only He is truly worthy!