

Series: Creation Care

The Creator and His Creation

Sunday April 10, 2016

1. *By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible* (Heb. 11:3).
2. *Where were you when I laid the earth's foundation... Who marked off its dimensions... Who stretched a measuring line across it? On what were the footings set, or who laid its cornerstone – while the morning stars sang together and all the angels shouted for joy? ...Who shut up the sea behind doors when it burst forth from its womb, when I made the clouds its garment and wrapped it in thick darkness... when I said, 'This far you may come and no farther; here is where your proud waves halt'? ...Have you ever given orders to the morning, or shown the dawn its place, that it might take the earth by its edges and shake the wicked out of it? What is the way to the abode of light? And where does darkness reside? Do you know the paths to their dwellings? ...Have you entered the storehouses of the snow or seen the storehouses of the hail... What is the way to the place where the lightning is dispersed, or the place where the east winds are scattered over the earth? ...Who cuts a channel for the torrents of rain, and a path for the thunderstorm, to water a land where no man lives, a desert with no one in it, to satisfy a desolate wasteland and make it sprout with grass? ...Can you bind the beautiful Pleiades? Can you loose the cords of Orion? Can you bring forth the constellations in their seasons or lead out the Bear with its cubs?* (Job 38)
3. "The world... is a whole barrellful of apples of his eye."
Robert Farrar Capon
4. "The sky is the daily bread of the eyes." Ralph Waldo Emerson
5. *The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they display knowledge. There is not speech or language where their voice is not heard. Their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the earth* (Ps. 19:1-4).
6. *For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities – his eternal power and divine nature – have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that humans are without excuse* (Ro. 1:20).

Study Notes

DISCUSSION

1. What do you hear and see in nature that leads you to belief in and worship of God?
2. How might we deal with someone who dismisses the notion of a supernatural creator behind creation (a watchmaker behind the watch)? How is it possible that some of us see creation and wonder how people don't see God behind it while others see creation and *don't* see God behind it?

INTO THE BIBLE

3. Read Psalm 24:1. What does this Psalm tell us about God?
4. Read Isaiah 40:26. What makes Isaiah so confident that God created the heavens?
5. Read Job 38:4-13. What tone do you think God used in this chat with Job? Why? Read Job 42: 1-6. What effect did this conversation (and its extension in chps. 39-41) have on Job?

APPLICATION

6. Rob suggested that God loves this world. What evidence do you see of this around you? How might you express your "love" for creation?
7. Spend some time reading or learning from others this week to discover and share at least one FUN FACT about creation – something that would continue to stir a little bit of reverential awe in you.