

Connecting with our Creator

Over the last half-century. I have been blessed to see many beautiful things that God has created. From the beaches of South Carolina to the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia, from the Alps of Switzerland to the Mountain of Jerusalem, from the beautiful forests of the Carolinas to the oceans on both coasts of these United States, I have seen just a portion of this world that God has created.

When we see the beauty of what the world has to offer it is a beginning of what can happen. But when we give thanks to God for making this just for us, we move into a relationship with the Creator that he intended from the beginning. God desires to walk and talk with us, just as he did with Adam and Eve before they got too full of themselves.

Through Jesus Christ, who created the world and has power over the winds and the waves, over illness and death, and can make our very life a new creation, we have access to the God who created and blesses us in this world and the next. We walk with him through the mountains and valleys, and everywhere in between, and in that walk we discover beauty and life.

God has given us the five senses to discover the wonder and beauty of his creation. We see the beauty of the mountains. We touch the water of the majestic ocean. We hear the booming thunder and appreciate God's power as we see the lightning flash.

His creation shows us what we need to know. We can see what he has done, read in the bible how he connects us with this world and the next. We must seek to find all the wonder and beauty God has made for us, for only then can we truly know him and each other.

“We need no fanciful teaching regarding the personality of God,” writes Ellen White. “What God desires us to know of Him is revealed in His word and His works. The beautiful things of nature reveal His character and His power as Creator.”

Perhaps the best way to discover God as creator is in prayer. To connect with God is to see what he has made, is making, and will make. It is

acknowledging him as Lord and God and letting him create new and wonderful perspectives in us. “True prayer,” wrote preacher Charles Spurgeon, “is neither a mere mental exercise nor a vocal performance. It is far deeper than that - it is spiritual transaction with the Creator of Heaven and Earth.”

God has all we need to survive and thrive. We don't have to make trips to the beach or the mountains to see God. He is everywhere, and ready to show us loveliness, grace, and possibility. “If your daily life seems poor,” the philosopher Ranier Rilke says, “do not blame it; blame yourself that you are not poet enough to call forth its riches; for the Creator, there is no poverty.”

We must not, however become a hermit or monk who seeks to leave people behind and get lost in creation. We must realize that God has made this world for us and our neighbor to enjoy. It is a canvas to write about his love. It is a school which teaches about how to relate to and go on spiritual adventures with friends. “He alone loves the Creator perfectly who manifests a pure love for his neighbor.”~ Venerable Bede

Perhaps the most incredible discovery we can make about God's creation is that it can be found when we discover that it is found in worship. God's people coming together in unity, hope, and expectation can truly appreciate the living, creating God for who he really is.

“The organist was almost at the end of the anthem's long introduction, and as the crescendo increases the cathedral began to glitter before my eyes until I felt as if every stone in the building was vibrating in anticipation of the sweeping sword of sound from the Choir.

The note exploded in our midst, and at that moment I knew our creator had touched not only me but all of us, just as Harriet had touched that sculpture with a loving hand long ago, and in that touch I sensed the indestructible fidelity, the indescribable devotion and the inexhaustible energy of the creator as he shaped his creation, bringing life out of dead matter, wresting form continually from chaos. Nothing was ever lost, Harriet had said, and nothing was ever wasted because always, when the work was finally completed, every article of the created process, seen or unseen, kept or discarded, broken or mended – EVERYTHING was justified, glorified and redeemed.” ~ Susan Howatch

When we find that worship is the beginning, not a retreat from creation, we will connect with those who worshipped in arbors in the woods, in cabins on wooden ships, in the meadows and mountains of Palestine. We will find that creation finds its completion as the creator shows us what he can really do!