



SILENCIO

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CREATION

WRITTEN BY JEREMY STEFANO, DIRECTOR OF EMMAUS

The Living God is Lord of all by distinction of being the God who creates all. The importance of this assertion is that God brings into being what does not exist before, or without, his Word. There is no greater claim to divinity, to being God, than that of being the Creator. Consequently, all that does exist has its source in God: origin, from God; being, in God; and purpose, for God.

“It is the glory of God to conceal a matter,” says Solomon, “and the glory of kings to search it out” (Proverbs 25:2). While the material of creation is evident to the senses, the laws that govern it are hidden from view. The beauty and splendor of the creation stir and enrapture the heart, shaping the humble soul in wonder and gratitude. Meanwhile the faculty of human intellect is given to search out and ponder the principles by which such a wonder is sustained. What kingly intellects have pondered and empirically confirmed is the presence of hidden, reliable and predictable forces that are active within the natural order. These powers are so dependable scientists and physicists call them laws. The laws of physics!

To settle the vexed Job, the God of Israel asks him if he was there when all came into existence. Then God presses further, enquiring if Job had approved or enacted the laws by which all is governed: “Do you know the ordinances of the heavens, or fix their rule over the earth?” No, Job hadn’t thought about that. God goes on: “Can you lift your voice to the clouds so that an abundance of water will cover you?” (Job 38:33-34). No again, it is not a human word that animates and orders all creation. It is none but God who governs with the

laws and statutes of his wisdom, embedded in the very fabric of the created order.

What is our response to such a Creator if not outright praise and exultation of him who is the Living God! How odd then that the uncovering of the laws of physics by the gifts of human reason should give credence to any denial of the existence of God the Creator. Perceiving and explaining something about the laws that move the clouds across the sky and that cause the rain to fall does not make God any less God! It is by his Word of power that everything exists, and by his rule that all things remain.

We worship God as the Creator not only looking back to the beginning, but also acknowledging the amazing reality of being upheld right now by the Word of his power (Hebrews 1:3). For the God who created all things promises to re-create the heavens and the earth. Faith in a God who has spoken all things into being, whose Word sustains all that is suspended in place, is solid ground for hope. This God, our God, has spoken again: “See, I am making all things new” (Revelation 21:5).

“Since the creation of the world God’s invisible attributes, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse.” Romans 1:20

“We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.” The Nicene Creed, 381 A.D.

I SING THE MIGHTY POWER OF GOD

A HYMN BY ISAAC WATTS, 1715

I sing the mighty pow'r of God,
that made the mountains rise,
That spread the flowing seas abroad,
and built the lofty skies.
I sing the wisdom that ordained the sun
to rule the day;
The moon shines full at His command,
and all the stars obey.

I sing the goodness of the Lord,
who filled the earth with food,
Who formed the creatures through the Word,
and then pronounced them good.
Lord, how Thy wonders are displayed,
where'er I turn my eye,
If I survey the ground I tread,
or gaze upon the sky.

There's not a plant or flow'r below, but makes
Thy glories known,
And clouds arise, and tempests blow,
by order from Thy throne;
While all that borrows life from Thee
is ever in Thy care;
And everywhere that we can be,
Thou, God, art present there.

SPIRITUAL PRACTICES

- God's enemies detract from his being the Creator. Read Psalm 8 as a little one with a heart to praise him.
- Take notice those things that delight you in this creation, which you hope to enjoy with the Lord in his New Creation.
- Write a psalm of your own that extols and worships God the Creator and Sustainer of all that is.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- If God's invisible qualities are in fact clearly seen in what God has created, what qualities or attributes of God are being revealed in the created order around you?
- What geographical or geological features most readily inspire you to worship the Living God?
- How can it be that the sun and moon, birds and flowers give honor to God by being what they are, yet I can fail to do so by the powers of my reason and the hesitation of my heart?

A Prayer of Illumination:

Lord God, how wonderful are Your works! How vast Your wisdom! In reverence we honor You, and with joy we celebrate all You are and all You do. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

SUGGESTED SPIRITUAL FORMATION RESOURCES

The Creator: Living Well in God's World by James Houston
Genesis: A Commentary by Bruce Waltke with Cathi Fredericks



Suggested Spiritual Formation Resources are available online at www.spiritualformationstore.com