

God Is Beautiful

'One thing I have asked of God and what I will seek after, is that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to see God's beauty and to inquire in His temple' (Psalm 27:4). 'How great is His goodness and how great is His beauty!' (Zechariah 9:17).

God is beautiful on many levels. His holiness is beautiful. 'Give to the Lord the glory due to His name. Bring an offering and come before Him. Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness' (1 Chronicles 16:29). 'When he (Jehoshaphat) had consulted with the people (in Israel), he appointed singers to the Lord so they should praise the beauty of holiness as they went out before the army and to say, "Praise the Lord, for His mercy endures forever"' (2 Chronicles 20:21). 'Give to the Lord the glory due to His name. Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness' (Psalm 29:2). 'Oh worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness and fear Him, all the earth' (Psalm 96:9). 'The Mighty One, God, Yahweh, speaks and calls the earth from sunrise to sunset. Out of Zion (Israel) the perfection of beauty, God shines forth' (Psalm 50:1 & 2). God desires our fellowship so His beauty can shine through His worshippers. He calls mankind from sunrise to sunset to fellowship with Him but most of humanity ignores His incessant calling so they miss out on experiencing His beauty.

Here on earth we cannot physically see the beauty of God but as it is written in Psalm 27:4, in the house of God, a temple, synagogue or church, His beautiful presence can be felt. We humans can find His strength and His beauty in the sanctuary, wherever that sanctuary is. 'Honour and majesty are before God. Strength and beauty are in His sanctuary' (Psalm 96:6). When we are in the presence of God, His beauty can almost be tasted as it is written, "Taste and see the Lord is good" (Psalm 34:8). The time to ask and inquire of God is when we are in His presence, a spiritual sanctuary, either in church or privately at home. A church does not have to be adorned or beautified for people to bask in the presence of God. All a church needs to be filled with the presence of God, are genuine people with genuine hearts who seek God.

From the first day the Lord chose Abraham the Hebrew (Genesis 12:1; 14:13) to be the father of all of God's chosen people (Genesis 17:5), many millions of Hebrew and Jewish people have been born and died on this earth. God told Abraham he would have so many descendents they could not be counted. "I will bless you greatly and I will multiply your descendents greatly like the stars of the heavens and like the sand on the seashore. Your descendents will possess the gate of their enemies. In your descendents all the nations of the earth will be blessed because you have obeyed My voice" (Genesis 22:17 & 18). The Jewish people living in Israel and other countries around the world today are just a tiny remnant of the millions who have come and gone from the earth, and they are the people who are bringing the Lord's beauty and glory to the land of Israel. When Jesus comes again in our time of history the Israeli's will be able to see the beauty in our Saviour and Lord, Whom they will worship. 'In that day, the Lord of Heavenly Armies will become a Crown of glory (revealing power and leadership) and a jewelled crown of beauty (revealing His loveliness and mercy) to the remnant of His people' (Isaiah 28:5). 'In that day (when the Jewish people return to Israel as they are now), the Lord's branch (Israel) will be beautiful and glorious and the fruit of the land will be the beauty and glory of the survivors of Israel' (Isaiah 4:2).

God is glorious and very exciting. He is beautiful. There are some scriptures that can give us a mental image of God's loveliness and beauty. He is ancient and sits on a fiery throne that has burning wheels. 'I (Daniel) watched until thrones were placed and One Who was Ancient of Days sat. His clothing was white as snow, the hair of His head white like pure wool. His throne was fiery flames and its wheels burning fire' (Daniel 7:9). God's white robe is so huge, just the train of His robe fills the heavenly temple when He sits on His throne. 'I (Isaiah) saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, His train filled the temple' (Isaiah 6:1). God rides on the clouds. 'Sing to God! Sing praises to His name! Extol Him Who rides on the clouds. To Yah, His name! Rejoice before Him! ... Sing praises to Him Who rides on the heaven of heavens, which are of old (ancient)' (Psalm 68:4 & 33). 'Behold, Yah rides on a swift cloud' (Isaiah 19:1). The light of His face shines on mankind (Numbers 6:25; Psalm 4:6; Psalm 31:16). God sits above the cherubim (Psalm 80:1). God's glory covers the heavens and His praise fills the earth. His splendour is like the sunrise. Sunrays shine from His hand where His power is hidden (Habakkuk 3:3 & 4).

God is absolutely perfect and good; He is our only hope. 'Oh, how great is Your goodness, which You have laid up for those who fear You, which You have worked for those who take refuge in You before the sons of men' (Psalm 31:19). 'Blessed is one whom You choose and bring near so they may live in Your courts. We will be filled with the goodness of Your house, Your holy temple' (Psalm 65:4). 'Be strong and let your heart take courage all you who hope in God' (Psalm 31:24).

The Lord is our righteousness and without God we have no righteousness we can call our own. 'God is righteous. He loves righteousness. The upright will see His face' (Psalm 11:7). 'I suffered the loss of all things so I may gain Jesus and be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own ... but through faith

in Jesus, the righteousness from God by faith' (Philippians 3:9). In fact, any righteous deeds we do of ourselves are regarded as filthy rags. 'We have all become unclean and all our righteousness is as filthy rags' (Isaiah 64:6). In this context the filthy rags were like the rags they once used to wash a dead body, inferring we were spiritually dead in our sin and only God's righteousness can cleanse us. We cannot spiritually cleanse ourselves. We need to be spiritually washed in the blood of Jesus. The one and only way we can have any righteousness is through accepting the sacrifice of Jesus by faith, Who poured out His blood on the cross. 'Jesus Himself bore our sins in His body on the tree (cross) so we, having died to sin, might live to righteousness, by Whose stripes you were healed' (1 Peter 2:24).

There is beauty in the presence of God. There is beauty in the desire of God as He calls mankind from sunrise to sunset to fellowship with Him. There is beauty in the leadership, sovereignty and majesty of God. There are many other aspects of beauty in God. When God created the earth, everything was beautiful and perfect. Mankind and sin has destroyed much of the beauty the earth once had and we cannot fully comprehend the incredible work the Lord has done to save mankind and to reconcile us with Him so we can be with Him for eternity. 'He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in their hearts but man cannot find out the work God has done from the beginning to the end' (Ecclesiastes 3:11).

All of God's creation is exceptionally beautiful. There is much incredible beauty in the various forms of life on earth. Apart from human life there is animal life, plant life, marine life and bird life plus inanimate objects like rocks, waterfalls, canyons, geothermal activity, mountains, snowflakes, northern and southern aurora lights, the sun, moon and millions of stars, and many other things that provide us with spectacular views. Everything was created by our Creator God just as they are now. Evolution does not exist in this world. Life is too complex to have evolved. Think of a rosebud slowly opening into a full bloom; an egg that hatches into a caterpillar that weaves itself into a chrysalis and finally emerges as a beautiful butterfly; a panda that cuddles its baby like humans cuddle their young children; the seahorse that looks like a leaf; rocks we call marble that comes in several colours; birds that can mimic almost any sound and there are many thousands of different animals that do amazing things. Yes, our God is beautiful, everything He created was beautiful and perfect until mankind ruined it all. 'God saw everything He had made and behold, it was all very good' (Genesis 1:31).

Amen and God bless you.

www.biblebookoftruth.com