

Daily Devotional by Dr. Gloria P. Holmes

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"Gateway to God's Glory in the Midst of the Coronavirus Pandemic"

"HEAVENLY GLORY"

"The heavens declare the glory of God, the skies proclaim the works of His hands." Psalm 19:1

The existence of God is quite evident through observance of our beautiful world. *The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, the world and they that dwell therein.* (Psalm 24:1) I pray that we always remember that we belong to God. That is a very reassuring truth for those who have accepted Jesus Christ as their personal Savior. God created us to enjoy nature; He gave humanity dominion over His creation. *"And God said, let us make man in our image, after our likeness, and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth."* (Genesis 1:26). As an aside, this is why we should take care of our environment and be concerned about issues such as recycling.

The great writer, James Weldon Johnson, creatively expresses this fact in his poem, "The Creation." *"And God stepped out on space and He looked around and said, I'm lonely, I'll make me a world."* Johnson then beautifully outlines all the created things and uses as God's refrain: *"And God said: That's good."* By the way, I learned this poem as a child and I urge you to please look it up and enjoy reading this poem in its entirety. My friends, God is good and life is good. Nature itself, daily shows us God's wonderful works. Since childhood, I have also enjoyed looking at the wonders of nature. I am sure that I was influenced by the fact that my parents enjoyed the outdoors and kept beautiful flower and vegetable gardens. No, I did not inherit the skill of planting gardens, but I sure like looking at other people's handiworks. I am still fascinated by the beauty of the sun, moon, and stars. During this stressful time of the coronavirus pandemic, it is important to look at the natural beauty in our world, and God's creation certainly offers us that. As we take walks and observe trees, flowers, birds, wildlife and the gorgeous sunsets, we see the glory of God. God's glory moves our minds to a peaceful place. God keeps life intriguing and interesting. Currently, *social distancing* is critically important, but people are eager to get to the various bodies of water, the beaches, lakes, and oceans, for leisurely activities and simply relaxation. However, let us always be wise as we enjoy and appreciate the works of God's hands and marvel at their magnificence.

Prayer

We thank you Lord for creating such a beautiful world which we can enjoy. May we always be mindful that the earth is Yours and the fullness thereof; the world and we who dwell therein. May we be willing to do our part to care for Your Creation and live our lives for Your glory! In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

How will you respond to today's message?
