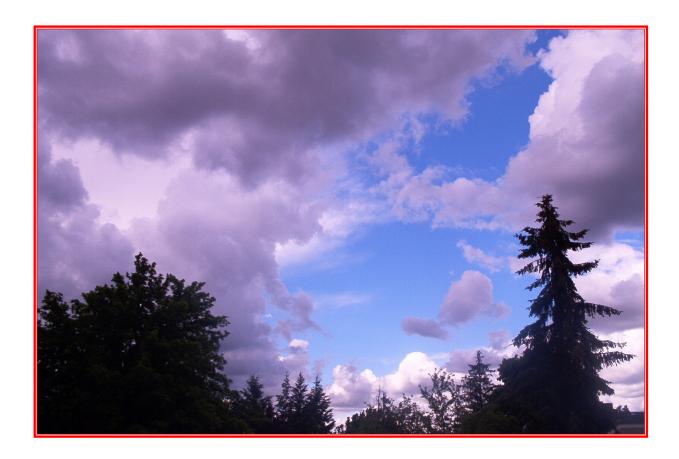
The Lord's Lessons in Nature



Written by CAREY POMERANTZ

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The Lord's Lessons In Nature

Page 1 of 165

Introduction

Jesus often used common, everyday things to teach important lessons about God. People could understand much of what they could see and touch but could not grasp heavenly truths. Jesus knew this and, in His infinite wisdom, taught in this manner. The purpose of this work is to learn to appreciate the wonder of the world God has given us and the lessons He teaches us through His creation.

This work is not a form of "nature worship" nor is it intended as a scientific course of study. The examples used in this work can be seen by anyone anywhere without the use of special tools or equipment. The goal is not to understand the workings of the world around us but rather to understand, as much as we are able, the teachings of God's truths as set forth in the Bible.

Once we train our eyes to really see the world around us, we can begin to appreciate the wonderful work of God who fills our lives with His abundant grace and love. When we look through the eyes of faith we can see God's presence everywhere. When we use our faith in Jesus to interpret what we see, we see much more than a first glance reveals.

Children have a wonderful way of seeing so much in their world. As adults, we often do not take the time to look around us and when we do, we tend not to let our imagination work. Perhaps that is why Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. I tell

you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it (Mark 10:14-15)." Jesus also tells us to have unadulterated faith as a child when He says, "1 praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned and revealed them to little children. Yes, Father, for this was your good pleasure (Matthew 11:25-26)."

Let us learn to see through the eyes of faith and praise God for the daily reminders of all He has done for us and given to us. The unbelievers in Jesus' day saw many great wonders but chose to turn a blind eye to them as we learn in John 12:37-40. Jesus also speaks of the blessedness of those who look through the eyes of faith when He said, "Blessed are the eyes that see what you see (Luke 10:23)." Let us then open our eyes and view the world not as man's creation but rather, of God's.

In case you think that you must travel to the far corners of the world to see God's lessons in nature, you should know that most of the photos used in this work were taken within a mile of our home.

The following three pages are some well known and well loved hymns and poems that express the wonder of God in all we see here on earth.

Fairest Lord Jesus A Seventeenth Century Hymn

Fairest Lord Jesus,

Ruler of all nature,

O thou of God and man the Son!

Thee will I cherish,

Thee will I honor

Thou, my soul's glory, joy & crown.

All fairest beauty,

Heavenly and earthly,

Wondrously, Jesus is found in thee:

None can be nearer,

Fairer, or dearer

Than Thou, my Savior, art to me.

Fair are the meadows,

Fairer still the woodlands,

Robed in the blooming garb of spring;

Jesus is fairer,

Jesus is purer,

Who makes the woeful heart to sing.

Beautiful Savior;

Lord of all nations;

Son of God and Son of man.

Glory and honor,

Praise, adoration,

Now and evermore be Thine.

Fair is the sunshine,
Fairer still the moonlight,
And all the twinkling starry host;
Jesus shines brighter,
Jesus shines purer,
Than all the angels heaven can boast.

The Lord's Lessons In Nature

Page 4 of 165

All Things Bright and Beautiful

Hymn by Cecil Alexander, 1848

All things bright and beautiful, All creatures great and small, All things wise and wonderful, The Lord God made them all.

Each little flower that opens,
Each little bird that sings,
He made their glowing colors,
He made their tiny wings.

The cold wind in the winter,
The pleasant summer rain,
The ripe fruits in the garden,
He made them every one.

The tall trees in the greenwood,
The meadows where we play,
The rushes by the water,
We gather every day.

He gave us eyes to see them,
And lips that we might tell,
How great is God Almighty,
Who has made all things well.

God's Autographs A poem by William Stidger

I stood upon a hill one night
And I saw the great Creator write
His autograph across the sky
In lightning strokes, and there was I
A witness to this great event
And signature magnificent!

I stood one morning by a stream
When night was fading to a dream
The fields were fair as fields may be
At spring, in golden mystery
Of dandelion - then God came on
And wrote His signature in Dawn.

One afternoon long years ago
Where glacial tides had ebb and flow
I found a cliff God's hand had smote;
I scanned its breast, whereon God wrote
With some great glacier for a pen
His signature for time and men.

One night I stood and watched the stars;
The Milky Way and ranging Mars,
Where God in letters tipped with fire
The tale of every tall desire
Had writ in rhyme and signed His name
A stellar signature of flame.

Creation's dawn was deep in night
When suddenly, "Let there be light!"
Awakened grass, and flower, and tree,
The starry skies, the earth and sea;
Then to complete Creation's span
In His own image, God made man,
And signed His name with stroke most sure—
Man is God's greatest signature!

The Lord's Lessons In Nature

Page 6 of 165

The Lord's Lessons in Nature

1. ROCKS

2. GRANITE

3. SOIL

4. DIAMOND

5. WATER

6. WATERFALL

7. RIVERS & STREAMS

8. PINE TREE

9. OAK TREE

10. SHRUBS

11. GRASS

12. DANDELION

13. HAWK

14. CATERPILLAR

15. BUTTERFLY

16. THE SUN

17. CLOUDS

18. RAIN

19. RAINBOW

20. WIND

21. SNOW

22. WINTER

23. SUMMER

24. AUTUMN

25. SPRING

26. FOOD

27. NUTS IN SHELL

28. FRUIT

29. CLOTHES

30. HOUSES

The Lord's Lessons In Nature

Page 7 of 165