

## God's Nature in Nature

11-15-20

In Romans 1:20 Paul makes this declaration about the nature of God: since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead". This statement tells us that God's nature can be witnessed in the natural world around us. This seems to be the point Paul makes in his sermons towards Gentiles in Acts 14 and 17.

In Acts 14:15-17 Paul is speaking to the people of Lystra who had mistaken Paul and Barnabas for Zeus and Hermes, pagan gods. Paul stated that nature revealed that all men have the same nature; therefore, we can conclude that all men have the same single God. Paul continues to point out that, universally, all nature follows the same rules and laws. This too points to the idea that one God created all nature. Finally, Paul directed them to consider that it is that same creation that provides our needs. As this is the creation of the One God, we conclude that God is good, as God provides for us.

In Acts 17:22-31 Paul is speaking to the philosophers of Mars Hill in Athens. There he declared that all life comes from the Creator; this is a similar claim to the assertion that all men have the same nature. In this cause, Paul tells them that the conclusion is that man cannot make God(s) (either in idol or in ideology). Next Paul declares that all men have limited lives. From this Paul states that we ought to see that God has a purpose for us, which is to seek Him.

Paul's naturalist sermons have an important impact today as well as 2,000 years ago. From these lessons we learn that one God created all things, and that all men have One God. Even evolution fails to explain that all men are of the same nature. Only a singular God can explain this. We see too that the creation reveals that God loves us and provides for us, and that God has a purpose for us.

Are there other things which are revealed by nature? Consider for a moment the greatness of the cosmos. When considering the nearly uncountable stars (something God pointed out to Abraham), we consider that God has power without measure. When we worry about things like "can God keep His Word pure throughout time" or "can God raise me from the dead", we need but look at the stars to know that His power is beyond our comprehension; it was merely by His Word these things came to be, and by that same Word we live (2 Peter 3:5-7).

Consider too that nature reveals the character of the Law of God. We live in a world where we know that natural laws are never broken. In Jeremiah 33:20-22 God declares that as are His laws of nature, so are His spiritual laws; they are unbroken. Spiritual laws are absolute too. This is important to know; it means that Truth is not subjective, but it is as objective as gravity or atomic structure.

As God's Law is absolute, so are His promises. God's natural promises, such as rain growing crops, or each kind reproducing its own kind, are certain. God's spiritual promises are certain as well. Both those for our good, and those that we fear. Thus we should live our lives knowing God will do all that He has said.