

9—The Creative Spirit

6/22/24

INTRO:

I. → Psalms 104:24-30

How many are your works, Lord!
In wisdom you made them all;
the earth is full of your creatures.
There is the sea, vast and spacious,
teeming with creatures beyond number—
living things both small and large.
There the ships *will go and go*,
and Leviathan, which you formed to frolic there.
→ 27 All of these on you *will wait*
to give them their food in its season.
When you give it to them,
they will gather;
when you open your hand,
they will be filled with good things.
→ 29 When you hide your face,
they will be troubled;
when you take away their breath,
they will die
and to their dust *they will return*.
When you send your Spirit,
they will be created,
as you renew the face of the ground.

BODY:

I. Experiencing Creation

*24 How many are your works, Lord!
In wisdom you made them all;
the earth is full of your creatures.*

- A. We can see God's creativity in everything He made.
- 1) **Psalms 19:1-2**
*The heavens declare the glory of God;
the skies proclaim the work of his hands.
Day after day they pour forth speech;
night after night they reveal knowledge.*
 - 2) PLANETARY NEBULA COMPOSITE IMAGES
- B. We experience the presence of God in His creation.
- 1) **Romans 1:20**
For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made.
 - 2) TAKING JET BOAT RIDE UP THE ROGUE

II. Participating in Creation

*28 When you give it to them,
they will gather;
when you open your hand,
they will be filled with good things.*

- A. We are not just products of creation, we are participants.
- 1) **Genesis 2:15**
The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it.
 - a) Heb (*abad*) work, serve, till
 - b) Heb (*shamar*) guard, protect, keep safe
 - 2) MENTAL HEALTH OF GARDENING
Studies reported a wide range of health outcomes, such as reductions in depression, anxiety, and body mass index, as well as increases in life satisfaction, quality of life, and sense of community.
- B. We all need to find the creative spark God placed in us.
- 1) **Ephesians 2:10**
For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

- 2) **RICK RUBIN, THE CREATIVE ACT: A WAY OF BEING**
"We all are creative beings. We all have our own experience and then, based on our own experience, find ways to share that experience so others can get a glimpse of what we're experiencing. And when something connects, it doesn't mean it's necessarily better than something that doesn't connect."
- 3) **REJECTING THE CHURCH HEALTH INITIATIVE**

III. Renewing Creation

*30 When you send your Spirit,
they will be created,
as you renew the face of the ground.*
Heb (*chadash*) renew, rebuild, repair

A. As we share in His creation, His Spirit re-creates us.

- 1) **2 Corinthians 4:16**
Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day.
- 2) **JACKSON POLLOCK "MURAL" 1943**
 - a) Commissioned for Peggy Guggenheim
 - b) Move from surrealist abstraction to action painting

B. His creative power renews us in every season.

- 1) **Colossians 3:9-10**
Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator.
- 2) **WHAT IS HE CREATING IN YOU?**

OTHER SCRIPTURES:

Acts 14:17

“Yet he has not left himself without testimony: He has shown kindness by giving you rain from heaven and crops in their seasons; he provides you with plenty of food and fills your hearts with joy.”

Colossians 1:16-18

For in him all things were **created**: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been **created** through him and for him. 17 He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

James 1:16

He chose to give us birth through the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of all he **created**.

Romans 8:20-21

For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God.