

"For Thou, LORD, hast made me glad through Thy work: I will triumph in the works of Thy hands." Psalms 92:4 KJV



Every day we rush about with oblivious apathy to the epiphany of beauty with which God has surrounded us! We do not marvel at creation, because we so seldom pause to contemplate it. Men are so busy with gadgets and machinery they barely notice the tiny sparrows that fit by faster than a car moves. *"Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? And one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father."* We think of nature as nuisance rather than a nurturing wonder. *"The heavens declare the glory of God!"* I love the grandeur of the Blue Ridge Mountains, the giant redwoods, and the towering Rockies. I grew up in the Peruvian Amazon Jungle. At age 9, my younger siblings and I swam with piranhas, ate monkey and caiman, played in the deep forest for hours, lived under a leaf roof, and slept in a mosquito net as howler monkeys sang a bedtime cantata. No running water, (unless you ran and got it) No indoor toilet, no TV, no car, and no toys. We cleared virgin jungle with axe and machete. (Dad did most of it) I remember the rifle-crack of the falling trees as the 200 foot giants thudded to the jungle floor, four and five at a time; vines from one pulling the next. Weeks followed, cutting and stacking burn piles waiting for the "dry" (not as wet) season. I don't remember anything boring. The landscape teemed with wonder; 1 inch long stinging ants; 8 inch wide iridescent blue butterflies; thousands of pastel yellow, pink, green, blue, and white butterflies that carpeted the low-water river banks for minerals; toucans and golden macaws that daily flew over our house. Across the river a giant umbrella tree protruded far above the jungle canopy and, silhouetted in the sunset, its branches would fill with hundreds of parrots as they roosted every evening. The two, 80 foot, royal palms that graced our half-acre front yard would fill with hundreds of yellow-breasted gnat catchers as they darted upwards from the branches to snag a snack from the evening swarms overhead. Our house faced upriver on the Atacuari into the sunset, so we had an unobstructed view of every evening sky, resplendent with hues you can only imagine! Color photos fell miserably short! I grew up reveling in the wonder of Creation! I knew God was real!!!

The power of our Sovereign God,
Doth shelter men upon His sod,
Creation cries the Gospel Creed,
Which fills for them their greatest need! ~CGP

God is building a City, but on earth He *"planted a garden...in Eden."* If you stop and think about it, the whole earth is a Garden! The very first city was built by man, Cain. (Gen.4:17) God didn't put man in a house or even a tent, but in a garden. Have you ever wondered where Adam slept? What do you do to *"dress and keep"* a perfect garden with no weeds or thorns? When did you last meditate on God's Word contemplating a brilliant sunset? A starry sky? A dewy morning? Satan keeps us so busy we fail to consider the *"Works of God's Hands."* Even Church work can prevent us from seeing the wonder of God! *"When I consider Thy heavens, the work of Thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which Thou hast ordained; what is man, that Thou art mindful of him? And the son of man, that Thou visitest him?"* From tiny atoms to blazing galaxies, there is more in God's Works to inspire, awe, and thrill you than a trillion inventions of man! Men dream of reaching the stars that God made in a day!

"The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth His handywork. Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge. There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard." Psalms 19:1-3 KJV