

Are We Grateful?

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On day 5 of this year's Feast of Tabernacles, Jason Busa spoke on the subject of optimism and as a supporting mechanism for each of us to become more optimistic in a world that's full of negativism, Jason brought to our attention a key word in helping us to be more optimistic and that key word is gratitude and the need to be more grateful.

With this as a partial introduction into today's message, I'm going to read a poem as an additional portion of the complete introduction to today's sermon.

And God stepped out in space and He looked around and said, "I'm lonely. I'll make me a world." And as far as the eye of God could see, darkness covered everything, blacker than a hundred midnights down in the cypress swamp.

Then God smiled and light broke and the darkness rolled up on one side and the light stood shining on the other and God said, "That's good."

Then God reached out and took the light in His hands and God rolled the light around in His hands until He made the sun. And He set the sun ablazing in the heavens. And the light that was left from making the sun, God gathered it up into a shining ball and flung it against the darkness, spangling the night with the moon and the stars. Then down between the darkness and the light, He hurled the world and God said, "That's good."

Then God Himself stepped down and the sun was on His right hand and the moon was on His left, the stars were clustered about His head and the earth was under His feet. And God walked and where He trod, His footsteps hollowed the valleys out and bode the mountains up.

Then He stopped and looked and saw that the earth was hot and barren so God stepped over the edge of the world and He spat out the seven seas. He batted His eyes and the lightnings flashed. He clapped His hands and the thunders rolled. And the waters above the earth came down, the cooling waters came down.

Then the green grass sprouted and the little red flowers blossomed. The pine tree pointed his fingers to the sky and the oak spread out its arms. The lakes cuddled down in the hollows of the ground and the rivers ran down to the sea. And God smiled again and a rainbow appeared and curled itself around His shoulders.

Then God raised His arms and He waived His hand over the sea and over the land and He said, "Bring forth; bring forth." And quicker than God could drop His hands, fishes and fowls and beasts and birds, they swam the rivers and the seas, roamed the forests and the woods and split the air with their wings and God said, "That's good."

Then God walked around and God looked around on all that He had made and He looked at His sun and He looked at His moon and He looked at His little stars. He looked on His world with all of its living things and God said, "I'm still lonely."

Then God sat down on the side of a hill where He could think. By a deep, wide river He sat down with His head on His hands, God thought and thought till He thought, "I'll make me a man."

Up from the bed of the river, God scooped up the clay and by the bank of the river, he kneeled Him down and there the great almighty God who lit the sun and fixed it in the sky, who flung the stars to the most far corners of the night, who rounded the earth in the middle of His hands, this great God, like a mammy bending over her baby, kneeled down in the dust, toiling over the lump of clay till he shaped it, that lump of clay, into His own image. And then into it, he blew the breath of life and man became a living soul. Amen. Amen.

Now you may be wondering what the initial introduction to this particular message, that of gratitude, and this poem, have in common. After all, the introduction dealt with gratefulness, having gratitude, and the poem as we just read, has to do with God's creation. Well I just have one statement to make: Stay with me and you'll see the correlation.

The poem I just read is by James Weldon Johnson titled "The Creation." Although it is not theologically correct, it is based on Genesis 1 and 2 and many find this poem very inspirational. Before we read the inspired account of creation in Genesis 1 and 2, where we find the dogmatic statement *In the beginning God created ...*, let's first review a few scriptures outside the book of Genesis that will help us set the stage for a greater understanding and a greater appreciation of what each of us experience on a daily basis, but all too often we take for granted. All too often we don't stop and we are not thankful, grateful, for the physical creation itself and the ones involved with bringing about the physical creation.

Let's begin by turning to Hebrews 11. This is commonly referred to as the faith chapter as its content deals with the faith of many from the Old Testament, both men and women. But here in verse 3:

Hebrews 11:3. *By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible. (NKJV)*

The things which are seen were not made by the things which are visible. Here we find Paul expounding on the process of creation, that God (Elohiym) took from the spirit realm and created the physical realm. Paul is stating here that the physical was not created from the physical.

Turn over the Romans 1:20.

Romans 1:20. *For 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, ... (NKJV)*

We are to understand God's invisible attributes such as power, design, organization, love, even humor by what we see from the temporary, physical creation about us. We see the effects of each and we experience the results of these attributes but not the invisible attributes themselves. We can look around and see what design does, but we don't see design itself. We can see the gorgeous star we call the sun, the power. We experience what that sun gives us, but we don't experience the power that keeps that sun rising in the east every day and setting in the west every evening.

Elohiym, at some time in the distant past, made a decision to create the physical. Turn to Isaiah 45:11-12.

Isaiah 45:11. *Thus says the LORD, The Holy One of Israel, and his Maker: "Ask Me of things to come concerning My sons; and concerning the work of My hands, you command Me.*

12) I [the Holy One of Israel, the LORD] have made the earth, and created man on it. I—My hands—stretched out the heavens, and all their host I have commanded. (NKJV)

Here we find a declarative statement by God, the Holy One of Israel, that He is the creator of this very temporary, physical existence that we see about us. That by His spiritual hands, He brought into existence the earth, the heavens and mankind, and that physical creation is described in Genesis 1 and 2. So turn if you would, to the first of the five books of the Torah, to Genesis. We're going to read through to chapter 2, verse 3. And I'm going to read through these verses without comment so as to refresh our minds as to what exactly took place during the six days of creation.

Genesis 1:1. *In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. (NKJV)*

We're going to skip verse 2 and come back to it.

- 3) Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light.
- 4) And God saw the light, that it was good; and God divided the light from the darkness.
- 5) God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night. So the evening and the morning were the first day.
- 6) Then God said, "Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters."
- 7) Thus God made the firmament, and divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament; and it was so.
- 8) And God called the firmament Heaven. So the evening and the morning were the second day.
- 9) Then God said, "Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear"; and it was so.
- 10) And God called the dry land Earth, and the gathering together of the waters He called Seas. And God saw that it was good.
- 11) Then God said, "Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb that yields seed, and the fruit tree that yields fruit according to its kind, whose seed is in itself, on the earth"; and it was so.
- 12) And the earth brought forth grass, the herb that yields seed according to its kind, and the tree that yields fruit, whose seed is in itself according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.
- 13) So the evening and the morning were the third day.
- 14) Then God said, "Let there be lights in the firmament of the heavens to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs and seasons, and for days and years;
- 15) and let them be for lights in the firmament of the heavens to give light on the earth"; and it was so.
- 16) Then God made two great lights: the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night. He made the stars also.
- 17) God set them in the firmament of the heavens to give light on the earth,
- 18) and to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good.
- 19) So the evening and the morning were the fourth day.
- 20) Then God said, "Let the waters abound with an abundance of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the face of the firmament of the heavens."
- 21) So God created great sea creatures and every living thing that moves, with which the waters abounded, according to their kind, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.
- 22) And God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth."
- 23) So the evening and the morning were the fifth day.
- 24) Then God said, "Let the earth bring forth the living creature according to its kind: cattle and creeping thing and beast of the earth, each according to its kind"; and it was so.

25) *And God made the beast of the earth according to its kind, cattle according to its kind, and everything that creeps on the earth according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.*

26) *Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."*

27) *So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.*

28) *Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."*

29) *And God said, "See, I have given you every herb that yields seed which is on the face of all the earth, and every tree whose fruit yields seed; to you it shall be for food.*

30) *Also, to every beast of the earth, to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, in which there is life, I have given every green herb for food"; and it was so.*

31) *Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good. So the evening and the morning were the sixth day.*

Genesis 2:1. *Thus the heavens and the earth, and all the host of them, were finished.*

2) *And on the seventh day God ended His work which He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done.*

3) *Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made. (NKJV)*

The very first thing to notice in this creation account is that it begins with the declarative statement: *In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.* A declarative statement is a statement that announces something matter-of-factly. The most important factor to remember in the declarative statement is that of who is being talked about by the author. It's God. *In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.* It was God who did the creating. Not some random cause or force. Could God have used what astronomers refer to as the big bang theory to create the physical? I don't know. The universe, as we know it, continues to expand outward as if it had a common beginning point at some time in the vastness of the past.

The bottom line I'm trying to make is this: By the creative hand of God, the physical came into existence from the spiritual and this three-dimensional universe began. It began with and at His will. Order was established and God's creative powers went to work as is identified beginning in verse 1 of Genesis 1.

After that, we find the author stating *And God saw that it was good.* For you see, brethren, at the end of the sixth day, God saw that His creation was good and then He rested. Not that He had to rest, but rather He completed the physical creation. And

note that the phrase, *And God saw that it was good*, occurs five times in Genesis 1. The title of today's sermon is

Are We Grateful?

And the purpose of today's message is to help each of us come to a greater understanding as to God and what He has given each of us on the physical plane to enjoy as we continue in this physical trek toward our spiritual goal.

Are we grateful? Do we show gratitude to God for the creation that He has given us? For the fact that the physical exists?

Let's visit now, Genesis 1, verse 2. We purposely skipped over verse 2.

2) The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. (NKJV)

The NIV states that the word "was" in *the earth was without form and void*, can be translated as *became*. The word "was" found here in verse 2 is Strong's 1961 and is translated as *became* in Genesis 2:7 where we read,

Genesis 2:7. *And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being. (NKJV)*

Referring now back to Genesis 1:2, from the NIV we read,

Genesis 1:2. *Now the earth was formless and empty. (NIV)*

The American Standard Version states, *waste and void*. The Living Bible states, *a shapeless chaotic mass*. The New Living Translation renders it as *empty, a formless mass cloaked in darkness*. And the Darby Bible states, *waste and empty*.

We are all aware that God is not the author of confusion (1 Corinthians 14:33) and we understand from Isaiah that the earth was created not in vain, but to be inhabited. That at some point prior to Genesis 1:2, it became, as the Hebrew dictates, to hu wa bo hu. That is translated as *without form and void* in the New King James version.

What we find here in Genesis 1:2 is the need of a re-creation of the earth in order that God's plan could be put into place which would support the flora, fauna, winged creatures, sea creatures as well as mankind.

Turn to Psalm 104:30.

Psalm 104:30. *You send forth Your Spirit, they are created; and You renew the face of the earth. (NKJV)*

God renewed the face of the earth and then moved forward for six days, creating what we see before us today, the beauty and grandeur of His creation. Even the seventh day Sabbath, within it there is spiritual beauty and grandeur. Within each day, God created and God saw that it was good.

What do the acts of creation tell us about our God? And what do the acts of creation tell us about the gratitude we should have towards our God? Well, for today's message, I've listed six aspects of God which we can come to understand from His creation, which we should have gratitude for. This list is not inclusive, as I'm sure each of us could come up with other expressive examples of God through His creation, but today we will look at six.

So we ask the question: What does the act of creation tell us about our God?

1. From the creation, we become aware of God's deity.

Turn to Romans 1 and we will re-read verse 20.

Romans 1:20. *For 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, ... (NKJV)*

The word "Godhead" in the Greek means *divinity* and divinity is defined as *deity*. By observing the creation about us, we find laws and/or effects in place which govern the continuation of God's creation. Laws and effects such as gravity, time, space, even matter and mass. Creation is orderly because of the laws governing the creation. The existence of these laws or effects require a divine creator to set them in motion and a divine creator to keep them in motion.

Over the millenniums, mankind has discovered certain laws yet these laws were in motion prior to those discoveries. These laws and/or effects exhibit the power of God.

Barnes Notes states the following concerning the word "Godhead" in Romans 1:20:

His deity, divinity, divine nature or essence. The word is not used elsewhere in the New Testament. It's meaning cannot therefore be fixed by any parallel passages. It proves the truth that the supremacy, or supreme divinity of God, was exhibited in the works of creation, ...

In addition, we find this from Jamieson, Fausset and Brown:

This word (the word "Godhead") signifies that property of divineness which belongs to Him who called His creation into being. Two things here thus said to be clearly discovered so reflecting intelligence by the things which are made. First that there is an eternal power and secondly that this is neither a blind

physical force or a pantheistic spirit of nature but a living conscious divine person whose outgoing energy is beheld in the external universe itself.

So from creation we become aware of God's deity.

2. From the creation, we become aware of God's glory.

Turn to Psalm 19.1

Psalm 19:1. *The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament shows His handiwork. (NKJV)*

I'm sure each of us, if we have ever had the opportunity to get away from the big city lights at night, have looked up at the stars and have been amazed at their beauty and the vastness of the expanse. Shelley and I are blessed to have a relaxing and soothing hot tub and on clear winter nights with snow on the ground and below freezing temperatures, we sit in the hot tub and we can view the expanse of space, the big dipper, the little dipper, the north star, falling stars which are actually meteoroids, and the vastness of our Milky Way galaxy and its array of stars. It's absolutely gorgeous. It's very peaceful, beautiful, vast. And as we sit there, we enjoy and we speak of God's creation.

Try to comprehend, to wrap your mind around the following: It is said that on a clear, moonless night, away from the big city lights about 3,000 stars are visible to the unaided eye. It is also said that with a small telescope, that number will increase to around 100,000 stars. But this is just the beginning of God's glory. The stars we can easily see are in our corner of the Milky Way galaxy. The entire galaxy numbers on the low end of the estimate, of about 100 billion stars. And beyond the Milky Way there are other galaxies with many shapes and sizes. Around 100 billion such galaxies are known to exist.

Now taking the Milky Way as an average galaxy – whatever an average galaxy is – but taking the Milky Way as an average galaxy and multiplying its estimated number of stars by the estimated number of galaxies that are known to mankind, the total number of stars in the vastness of the universe is as follows: 10,000,000,000,000,000,000,000. That's a 10 with 21 zeros. This would be ten billion trillion. Ten billion trillion stars and that is just an estimate of the know number.

Suppose these stars were divided up among the world's total population. We'll use the total population of around 6 billion people. Then each person on earth would receive 1,000,000,000,000. That's 1 with 12 zeros. More than 1 trillion stars. Can we begin to see as Psalm 19:1 states *the heavens declare* and that word "declare" can mean *celebrate*. It can mean *record*. The heavens declare the glory of God.

In your own bible study take the time to meditate on Psalm 147:4 as well as Isaiah 40:26 and Colossians 1:17. Whatever the number God has created, He calls all the

stars by name and He keeps count of them. From the creation of the heavens we see the glory of God. Are we grateful? Are we thankful for this?

3. We become aware from the creation of God's power manifested and we see it in the creation itself.

Manifested just means *easy to detect* or *recognizable*. It means *to make known*.

Let's turn to Jeremiah 51. We're going to read verses 15 and 16.

Jeremiah 51:15. *He has made the earth by His power; He has established the world by His wisdom, and stretched out the heaven by His understanding.*

16) *When He utters His voice— There is a multitude of waters in the heavens: "He causes the vapors to ascend from the ends of the earth; He makes lightnings for the rain; He brings the wind out of His treasures." (NKJV)*

Have you ever sat in amazement at the ocean? We're blessed here to live on the west coast. Some of you are blessed to live on the golf coast or the east coast and I'm sure you've traveled to the ocean periodically. Have you ever sat in amazement at the ocean and watch the power within just the waves themselves? Have you ever experienced a low or a high tide? Not only is there design in the creation of waves, there is also order in the creation of waves. Who set the order of the oceans? Who set the boundaries that we refer to as the seven seas? Turn to Psalm 104 again. We'll read verses 5 through 9.

Psalm 104:5. *You who laid the foundations of the earth, So that it should not be moved forever,*

6) *You covered it with the deep as with a garment; the waters stood above the mountains.*

7) *At Your rebuke they fled; at the voice of Your thunder they hastened away.*

8) *They went up over the mountains; they went down into the valleys, to the place which You founded for them.*

9) *You have set a boundary that they may not pass over, that they may not return to cover the earth. (NKJV)*

The Elohiym creator sets order in the creation, boundaries to the tides. He controls the seas. Psalm 107.

Psalm 107:23. *Those who go down to the sea in ships, who do business on great waters,*

24) *They see the works of the LORD, and His wonders in the deep.*

25) *For He commands and raises the stormy wind, which lifts up the waves of the sea.*

26) *They mount up to the heavens, they go down again to the depths; their soul melts because of trouble.*

27) *They reel to and fro, and stagger like a drunken man, and are at their wits' end.*

28) *Then they cry out to the LORD in their trouble, and He brings them out of their distresses.*

29) *He calms the storm, so that its waves are still. (NKJV)*

The creative and controlling power of God is evident in His creation. Are we grateful for that?

4. We become aware of God's goodness.

Remain with me here in Psalms. Turn to the 33rd Psalm.

Psalm 33:4. *For the word of the LORD is right, and all His work is done in truth.*

5) *He loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of the goodness of the LORD. (NKJV)*

This goodness of God is an attribute that is described in many ways throughout scripture. Let's take a moment to review a few of those. God's goodness is described as great.

Psalm 31:19. *Oh, how great is Your goodness, which You have laid up for those who fear You, which You have prepared for those who trust in You In the presence of the sons of men! (NKJV)*

The NIV states that this goodness *is bestowed on those who take refuge in God.*

The Tanakh, in place of the word great, uses the word *abundant.* *How abundant is the good that you have in store for those who fear you.*

Psalm 145:17. *The LORD is righteous in all His ways, gracious in all His works.*

18) *The LORD is near to all who call upon Him, to all who call upon Him in truth.*

19) *He will fulfill the desire of those who fear Him; He also will hear their cry and save them.*

20) *The LORD preserves all who love Him, ... (NKJV)*

Here we find the goodness of God described in various ways: gracious, near to all, fulfilling the desire of all, hearing the cries of those who fear Him and the goodness of preserving those who love Him.

God's goodness is universal. Look at verse 8 and 9 of Psalm 145.

Psalm 145:8. *The LORD is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and great in mercy. (NKJV)*

Are we grateful for that? That the Almighty God, creator that we have direct access to because of what our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ did for each of us, for all of mankind, are we grateful that this great God is as merciful as He is?

9) The LORD is good to all, And His tender mercies are over all His works. (NKJV)

Again, do we have the gratitude we should have in the wonderful mercy that God shows each and every one of us?

You know, goodness to all is an extension of God's love. It's a fruit of the spirit. Turn to Galatians 5:22. We've all been there many times. Let's refresh our memories.

Galatians 5:22. *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23) gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. (NKJV)*

And of course, as God is goodness, we too should exercise God's holy spirit in our lives and practice goodness to all our family as we are admonished to do so in Romans 15:14.

Romans 15:14. *Now I myself am confident concerning you, my brethren, that you also are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge, able also to admonish one another. (NKJV)*

We are family. Do we admonish one another? Do we show goodness to one another? We are to be full of goodness and practice that goodness by exercising God's spirit as we are admonished here in verse 13.

13) Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. (NKJV)

Are we grateful for the joy and peace that we can have? Are we grateful for the hope that we can have? Are we grateful for God's spirit that each of us have access to? By allowing the power of the holy spirit to influence our lives, by allowing that power to direct our lives, we become more joyful, more hopeful, more peaceful, and more goodness exudes in our actions from us to each of us.

Back now to the aspects of God that we become aware of as we contemplate His wonderful creation.

5. We become aware of God's wisdom.

As we contemplate His wonderful creation, we become aware of God's wisdom.

Psalm 104:24. O LORD, how manifold are Your works! In wisdom You have made them all. The earth is full of Your possessions— (NKJV)

By using perfect wisdom, God created the physical and God saw that it was good. God's wisdom is described as follows. Study them in your own time. God's wisdom is described as universal (Dan. 2:20); God's wisdom is defined as infinite (Psalm 147:5); God's wisdom is described as unsearchable (Isa. 40:28); God's wisdom is mighty (Job 36:5); and God's wisdom is perfect (Job 37:16). Are we grateful for God's wisdom?

6. As we contemplate this wonderful creation, we become aware of God's sovereignty.

Turn to Revelation 4. The setting is the throne room of God. John, after writing down the messages to the seven churches, still in vision, he looks and he finds an open door. We'll pick it up in verse 2.

Revelation 4:2. *Immediately I was in the Spirit; and behold, a throne set in heaven, and One sat on the throne.*

3) *And He who sat there was like a jasper and a sardius stone in appearance; and there was a rainbow around the throne, in appearance like an emerald.*

4) *Around the throne were twenty-four thrones, and on the thrones I saw twenty-four elders sitting, clothed in white robes; and they had crowns of gold on their heads.*

5) *And from the throne proceeded lightnings, thunderings, and voices. Seven lamps of fire were burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God.*

6) *Before the throne there was a sea of glass, like crystal. And in the midst of the throne, and around the throne, were four living creatures full of eyes in front and in back.*

7) *The first living creature was like a lion, the second living creature like a calf, the third living creature had a face like a man, and the fourth living creature was like a flying eagle.*

8) *The four living creatures, each having six wings, were full of eyes around and within. And they do not rest day or night, saying: "Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, Who was and is and is to come!" (NKJV)*

These are the same four living creatures that Isaiah wrote about in Isaiah 6:3.

9) *Whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to Him who sits on the throne, who lives forever and ever,*

10) *the twenty-four elders fall down before Him who sits on the throne and worship Him who lives forever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying:*

11) *"You are worthy, O Lord, To receive glory and honor and power; For You created all things, and by Your will they exist and were created." (NKJV)*

Here we find the sovereignty of God. God is to be praised as our sovereign creator for bringing the physical into existence but also for the previous five aspects we find in His creation: His deity, His glory, His power, His goodness, and His wisdom.

In conclusion, once again turn for a final time to Psalm 104. Here we find praise to the sovereign God for His creation and His providence.

Psalm 104:1. *Bless the LORD, O my soul! O LORD my God, You are very great: You are clothed with honor and majesty,*

2) *who cover Yourself with light as with a garment, who stretch out the heavens like a curtain.*

3) *He lays the beams of His upper chambers in the waters, who makes the clouds His chariot, who walks on the wings of the wind,*

4) *who makes His angels spirits, His ministers a flame of fire.*

5) *You who laid the foundations of the earth, so that it should not be moved forever,*

6) *You covered it with the deep as with a garment; the waters stood above the mountains.*

7) *At Your rebuke they fled; at the voice of Your thunder they hastened away.*

8) *They went up over the mountains; they went down into the valleys, to the place which You founded for them.*

9) *You have set a boundary that they may not pass over, that they may not return to cover the earth.*

10) *He sends the springs into the valleys; they flow among the hills.*

11) *They give drink to every beast of the field; the wild donkeys quench their thirst.*

12) *By them the birds of the heavens have their home; they sing among the branches.*

13) *He waters the hills from His upper chambers; the earth is satisfied with the fruit of Your works.*

14) *He causes the grass to grow for the cattle, and vegetation for the service of man, that he may bring forth food from the earth,*

15) *And wine that makes glad the heart of man, oil to make his face shine, and bread which strengthens man's heart.*

16) *The trees of the LORD are full of sap, the cedars of Lebanon which He planted,*

17) *Where the birds make their nests; the stork has her home in the fir trees.*

18) *The high hills are for the wild goats; the cliffs are a refuge for the rock badgers.*

19) *He appointed the moon for seasons; the sun knows its going down.*

20) *You make darkness, and it is night, in which all the beasts of the forest creep about.*

21) *The young lions roar after their prey, and seek their food from God.*

22) *When the sun rises, they gather together and lie down in their dens.*

23) *Man goes out to his work and to his labor until the evening.*

- 24) *O LORD, how manifold are Your works! In wisdom You have made them all. The earth is full of Your possessions—*
- 25) *This great and wide sea, in which are innumerable teeming things, living things both small and great.*
- 26) *There the ships sail about; there is that Leviathan which You have made to play there.*
- 27) *These all wait for You, that You may give them their food in due season.*
- 28) *What You give them they gather in; You open Your hand, they are filled with good.*
- 29) *You hide Your face, they are troubled; You take away their breath, they die and return to their dust.*
- 30) *You send forth Your Spirit, they are created; and You renew the face of the earth.*
- 31) *May the glory of the LORD endure forever; may the LORD rejoice in His works.*
- 32) *He looks on the earth, and it trembles; He touches the hills, and they smoke.*
- 33) *I will sing to the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have my being.*
- 34) *May my meditation be sweet to Him; I will be glad in the LORD. (NKJV)*

Psalm 104 is a summation of Genesis 1:1 through Genesis 2:3, the high level overview, if you will, of creation. For in that creation we see and hopefully now have a greater understanding, of the gratitude we should have towards our wonder God creator for God created, and God saw that it was good.