

Friday 29th September- Observation, Anticipation, Resting in an
Eternal Perspective

Psalms 96:11-13 Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea roar, and all its fullness; Let the field be joyful, and all that is in it. Then all the trees of the woods will rejoice before the Lord. For He is coming, for He is coming to judge the earth. He shall judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with His truth.

Part of our witness to others should be fuelled by a desire for people of all nations to come to experience eternity with God in a world where all things are made new and creation is free to be in relationship with Him without sin or suffering. Given the fact that we know Jesus will return soon, this should encourage a sense of urgency to share the good news of Jesus Christ with all we meet.

As much as we can be in awe of the beauty of creation, as Christians we recognise that on this side of eternity, its beauty is fleeting and will ultimately fade away. Why? Because we understand that Jesus is coming back and will renew all things, including the earth itself. It is this truth that should give us the ability to rest in an eternal perspective whenever the troubles of our present world seem to overwhelm us.

The following prayer helps to combine these two points:

Dear Lord,
As much as we long for your second coming
And the restoration of Eden we see depicted in Revelations 21-22,
We equally know that creation is eagerly awaiting
The manifestation of the children of God (Romans 8:19).
So when we observe creation,
We recognise that we have a duty to reveal ourselves
To those who do not yet know you.
Help us to do this with a boldness and urgency
As we recognise that you are coming again soon to judge the earth.
We ask Lord too that we learn to rest in the confidence of knowing
That soon enough we will be home with you.
Amen

ACTION: Take a nature walk to marvel at the beauty of creation, allow creation to stir up your faith to share with others that you know the creator of all creations!