



REFLECTIONS

September 5, 2021

Now the earth was formless and empty...

Genesis 1:2

Everyday Miracles

Moses didn't seem to mention them. Of course, he wrote of miracles he witnessed, notably the parting of the Red Sea; but first in Genesis, he described the creation—when God made something from nothing. If we pause now to look at what God created, we can find ourselves in awe of its beauty—filled with snow topped mountains, dense forests, crops growing in the plains, and vast power unleashed by the seas. But hidden within its beauty, we often fail to notice the systems God created that makes it all work. I call it Earth's autopilot.

Elements of Earth's autopilot include wind, temperature, gravity, recycling and reproductive systems, among many others. These everyday miracles are such a natural part of our lives that we may easily assume they always existed. But were they always there?

Moses wrote, *In the beginning... the earth was formless and empty*. "Formless" is defined as without regular form or shape; lacking order or arrangement; without physical existence. So even though Moses didn't mention those systems specifically in his account of creation, it can be easily argued that no form or shape of anything orderly existed before God's creation.

So, take time to think about God and the work of his hands. Think about the moisture forming in the air from evaporation of water resting on the surface of the earth. Then of snowflakes forming from moisture in the air and falling on those mountaintops. And of melting snow streaming casually down the mountainside to replenish water supplies stored in rivers and lakes below, all the while supplying water to refresh vegetation and wildlife along its journey.

Or imagine forests that supply food and shelter to wildlife residing under their canopy. Insects thriving there keep the grounds clean of contaminants while themselves becoming a food source for residence sheltering there. Or of wheat fields blowing in the wind awaiting harvest of its fruit to be used to feed millions while saving an abundance of its precious seeds to produce next year's crop.

These are among the countless everyday miracles we take for granted. They just happen. Only they don't just happen. They are the work of God's hands every day, meeting the daily needs of our lives, delivered with his love.

And we seldom notice enough to say thank you.

You are the light of the world,

Richard +

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