

Sunday, 01 November 2009 at CiB
Creation Care...

Here's a cool thing to contemplate...

God Loves Creation!

It would be a shame if in all the convoluted arguments of the day we forgot just how the heart of God moves toward all of creation, this work of Divine love, this reflection of Divine glory.

We have a problem when we lose touch with God's love of creation, and God's vital connection and intention with creation!

- Our arguments about creation can become little else than political, economic and usually self-centered.
- We can end up setting ourselves in a competition with creation.
- Losing God's connection to creation can cause us to become more disconnected with one another.

Monotheism Pantheism, and Panentheism... huh?

panentheism, the view that God, though not equated with all of creation, is vitally present in all of creation.

A pinch of **panentheism** can be helpful in keeping our hold on God's vital connection to creation!

This week's scriptural anchors are found in:

- † Genesis 1
- † Psalm 96:9-13
- † Romans 8:18-26

WHERE IN CREATION HAVE YOU MOST SEEN GOD?

DOES CREATION RAISE ANY QUESTIONS IN YOU ABOUT GOD?

Food for thought...

On God's Connectedness w/Creation

Iraeneus (120-202)

"The initial step for a soul to come to knowledge of God is contemplation of nature."

John of Damascus (675-749)

"The whole earth is a living icon of the face of God."

On Our Connectedness

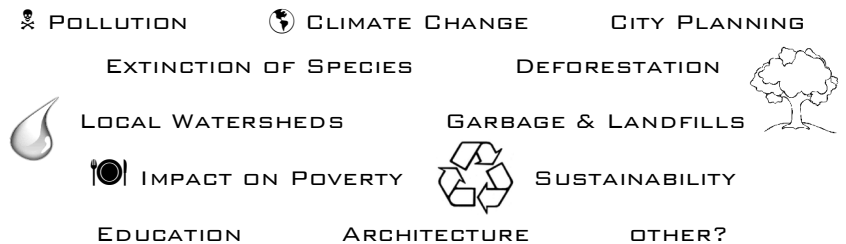
Ambrose of Milan (340-397)

*"The world has been created for everyone's use, but you few rich are trying to keep it for yourselves. For not merely the possession of the earth, but the very sky, the air, and the sea are claimed for the use of the rich few...
The earth belongs to all, not just to the rich."*

Some ideas to take with us:

- † *Creation Care is not driven by economics.*
- † *Creation Care is not optional.*
- † *Creation Care is a matter of the heart, God's heart.*
- † *Creation Care is about connectedness w/God and neighbors.*

WHAT AREAS OF CREATION CARE MOST RESONATE WITH YOU?



Weekly Grace...

It's a challenge to tune into the movements of God's heart, to love as God loves. God is God, and we are not. Still, it's up to us to reject the limiting arguments and thoughts that set us in conflict or competition with creation... we are not adversaries with creation, but we and all creation share a common connectedness with God and a hope of redemption. How can I better tune my heart to a love of God's creation, and in that tuning, better honor God and my neighbor?