

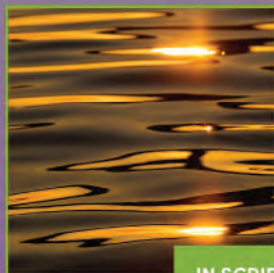
Creation

I L L U S T R A T E D

YOUR GETAWAY ...



IN NATURE



IN SCRIPTURE




IN LIVING

SPRING 2022 VOL 29 NO 1 US \$4.99





A soft-focus background featuring a pink flower on the left and a bee flying towards it. The bee is covered in yellow pollen and has a bright orange sac on its leg. The background is a gradient of light blue and pink.

*“How sweet are
Your words
to my taste,
sweeter than honey
to my mouth!”*

– Psalm 119:103

Our Why



Spring sparks a time of renewal, restoration, and hope. We welcome leafing life on once barren trees, greening grass amid stubble-strewn hills, and blooming blossoms at nearly every glance.

A palpable power can even be felt when spring returns each year (from the new life our Creator put into every seed that sprouts to the rushing snow-melt streams to the melodious bird songs that fill the air) as gentle reminders and samples of His original design in the Garden of Eden. Such gifts swell our hearts with renewed hope and peace.

A primary purpose for publishing *Creation Illustrated* has always been to help bring peace, faith, hope, and charity to its readers. “And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity” (1 Corinthians 13:13, KJV). War is the opposite of peace, fear is the opposite of faith, despair is the opposite of hope, and selfishness is the opposite of charity. Current world events reveal that the enemy remains active in spreading greed-based selfishness, power-hungry lies, and pride-filled arrogance—all grenades hurled at the foundation of peace, faith, hope, and charity.

To buffet the barrage of bad news blasting the airwaves that can blow away the gentle spring breeze of the Holy Spirit, each story we print features an invitation to be refreshed by drawing close to our Creator and Redeemer. The goal is to inspire worship and gratitude to Him for all of the bountiful, charitable blessings He bestows, even in times of trial.

God gives each of us the opportunity to blossom when we accept Jesus into our lives. “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new” (2 Corinthians 5:17). Then the familiar charitable admonition in Acts 20:35 encourages, “In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive’” (NIV). God even promises that one day He will recreate a new heaven and a new earth, “Behold, I make all things new.” And He said to me, “Write, for these words are true and faithful” (Revelation 21:5).

We call upon the many such promises throughout His Word to help each of us navigate life’s journey no matter how difficult it may become. The world may be full of strife, struggles, loneliness, and despair, but God even reaches out to hold our hand! “For I, the Lord your God, will hold your right hand, saying to you, ‘Fear not, I will help you’” (Isaiah 41:13). We pray that you are inspired to join us as we seek to reach a hurting world in serving as an extension of His hand with hope-filled object lessons, parables, and illustrations found in His creation. That’s why.

The Publishers

Helping a hurting world cannot be done alone! In our efforts to assist budget-strapped Christian schools and poorly funded prison, hospital, and military chaplains, we invite you to extend our reach with your charitable tax-deductible donations of any size. Simply go to: **www.CreationIllustrated.com** and **click on donations** to choose among prison, school, hospital, and military outreach projects. No gift is too large or too small.

Thank you for helping! Many charitable hands make for light work.



Creation

I L L U S T R A T E D

Vol. 29, No. 1

... IN NATURE

Our Purpose . . .

is to share the wonders of God's creation. By revealing fresh insights of His infinite wisdom, gentle touch, undeniable justice, redeeming love, and flawless design, pure truth shall bring renewed peace. Each part of this publication is offered as a reprieve from the daily rigors of life so that all can look to the future with unbridled gratitude and hope.

Editor/Publisher: Tom Ish
Associate Editor: Jennifer Ish
Assoc. Art Director: Melissa Ish
Copy Editors: Marilyn Morgan and Ed E. Quiring, PhD

Contributing Writers:

Bobby Harrison, Tom & Jennifer Ish, Renee Joy Janzen, Terry and Jean McComb, Carole Rodgers, Aaron Sharp, Jean Van Houten, Zachary Sigmon, Edward Tooley, Sharon Van Biljon, and Martin Wiles.

Contributing Photographers:

Harry Christensen, Wayne Easley, Bobby Harrison, Melissa Ish, Adam Jackson, Renee Joy Janzen, Tom & Pat Leeson, NPS, Aaron Sharp, Renae Smith, Stone Nature Photography, Laura Tooley, and Martin Wiles.

Our Why	2
Giving Thanks	4
Sharing Our Mail	5
Re-Creation Outdoors	6
Splitting Hares	14 ▶
Creation Up-Close	22



... IN SCRIPTURE



◀ 28	Creation Day 1
	The Creation of Light
38	Creation Highlights
39	Creation Stewardship

... IN LIVING

Lens On Creation	40
My Walk With God	42
Gardens From Eden	48
Genesis Cuisine	52 ▶
Children's Story	54
Character Lesson	58
Contests	60
Study Guide	62



Like us:



Follow us:



The cover photo of a spotted tussock moth caterpillar was taken by Renae Smith of Brush Prairie, Washington.

Creation Illustrated (ISSN 1086-1645) (USPS 013-553) Vol. 29, No. 1, Spring 2022 Copyright © Creation Illustrated Ministries 2022; all rights reserved. Creation Illustrated is published quarterly by a nonprofit, nondenominational-owned ministry dedicated to the eternal impact of sharing biblical truth through the wonder of God's creation. The brief Bible texts in this publication are from the King James Version and a few other versions including the New King James Version. Copyright © 1979, 1980, 1982, Thomas Nelson, Inc. Editorial offices: Creation Illustrated Ministries, 813 S. Wilbur Rd., Spokane Valley, WA 99206 (mailing address: P.O. Box 141103, Spokane Valley, WA 99214-1103), 1(800) 360-2732. Email: ci@CreationIllustrated.com. Internet: www.creationillustrated.com. Periodicals Postage Paid at Spokane, WA, and additional mailing offices. Advertising: Creation Illustrated, P.O. Box 141103, Spokane Valley, WA 99214-1103, Phone (530) 269-1424. Writers and Photographers: We welcome unsolicited manuscripts, poetry, and color High Resolution digital images with identification of subject, location, and photographer. We cannot be responsible for or return materials that are not accompanied by a self-addressed stamped return envelope. Subscription prices: in U.S. \$19.95 for 1 yr.; \$36.95 for 2 yrs. For Canada add \$10 U.S. per year for additional postage; subscriptions outside North America add \$20 U.S. per year additional postage. To place your order, send all new subscriptions, questions, and address changes to Creation Illustrated, P.O. Box 141103, Spokane Valley, WA 99214-1103. Allow 4-6 weeks for new subscriptions or changes. The Postal Service will not forward your magazine unless you guarantee forwarding postage with your local post office. We cannot replace magazines for those who do not give sufficient notice or guarantee forwarding. Postmaster: Send address changes to Creation Illustrated, P.O. Box 141103, Spokane Valley, WA 99214-1103.

Water

Everyone knows; water is essential for life. Not only is earth blessed with an abundance of water, it is one of the few elements that comes in multiple forms—liquid, solid, and vapor. But it must come in the correct form and in just the right amount for optimal effect. Too much, too little, too hot, or too cold can cause issues or even devastating disasters.

The very life-giving water that helps our gardens sprout and flourish each spring and summer can ravage a rosebush with disease if moisture comes in abundance at the wrong time as revealed in this edition's garden story. Such an imbalance of something that typically promotes life can lead to trouble, but the solution offers a soul-saving lesson from the hand of the Creator.

Spring snowmelt and runoff sends soil-enriching streams into valleys, fields, and reservoirs, but sometimes these ribbons of swirling eddies and roaring rapids can present a dangerous barrier as discovered by a father and daughter backpacking through the hills of the Carolinas in a story called "Hiking Amid Obstacles." A rickety swinging bridge invites a dry passage riddled with consternation and anxiety. Find out for yourself if faith and trust won out over despair.

Several regions of the world suffer from too little water with the onslaught of climate change,

but a patch of Washington's Olympic National Park gets deluged by as much as fourteen feet of rain annually plus another thirty inches worth of moisture from the fog and ocean mist. The resulting abundant verdure in the Hoh Rain Forest enriches visitors with an uplifting *cathedral* of trees draped in angelic robes of moss in this edition's recreation outdoors feature. But such botanical richness and profusion of water also brings an unavoidable consequence—decaying wood and debris.

At the opposite end of the precipitation scale are arid regions where parched desert landscapes make visitors wonder if hardly

any water ever dampens the dusty domain. Yet, as revealed in the Creation up-close article called "Sensational Succulents," we are not only dazzled by the variety of shapes, hues, and textures of these leathery plants, we discover their unique ability to preserve and sustain life through retention of precious moisture within their fleshy, plump fronds—a valuable illustration of wise conservation and careful stewardship of scant available resources.

But global water supplies were not always so spotty. On the very first day of the Creation week, water played a dominant role even before the Spirit of God was mentioned and prior to the Creation of light. We learn in this edition's feature on day one of the profound aspects of light, what kind of light, where it came from, and how we must always have it. However, we must recognize that even with this powerful presence of energy, life would not be possible without water.

So, as the springtime temperatures begin to increase, slip off your shoes and socks and skip through the lush grasses like the rabbits do in this issue's creature story called "Splitting Hares." You may just find that the tickle between your toes awakens a fresh grin and a new outlook on His abundant blessings that fills your heart with overflowing springs of gratitude and living water.



Tom Ish, editor/publisher



Sharing Our Mail

Giving plan . . .

My husband and I are adding your ministry to our giving plan. My parents enjoy the magazine so much and so do I. Sharing the facts and truths about Creation is one of my passion subjects.

Thank you so very much for all your efforts and your faithfulness to God's Word. I know that many people refuse to believe about Creation because they do not want to acknowledge or obey the Creator. My children grew up on all of it, and they still believe today.

Dear Friends:

We appreciate hearing from our readers. Please let us know how you are using Creation Illustrated.

How to contact us:

By Mail:

Creation Illustrated
PO Box 141103
Spokane Valley, WA 99214

By E-Mail:

ci@creationillustrated.com

By the Internet:

www.creationillustrated.com

By Phone:

1(800) 360-2732

Visit our Website

HERE >>>
using a Smart
Phone camera



May God bless you all richly and supply all your needs through our Lord Jesus Christ. I'm going to send regular donations each month so others can learn and grow.

S. Cochran
Goldendale,
Washington

Gift in prison . . .

My mom had given me a subscription to your magazine for my birthday in February, or was it for Christmas? Anyway, I am so grateful for your excellence in bringing the world alive with the articles you have combined with Scripture.

The articles and pictures that you put into your magazine shows your heart for God and the truth in His creation. Thank you for the blessings that your magazine has brought to me and, I am sure, your other readers. It has been a pleasant surprise to receive it. May God continue to bless your endeavor to bring His truth through your publication.

A. Gathormsen,
Texas State Prison
New Boston, Texas

Prize money . . .

You can not imagine how happy I was to learn that my daughter has won the coloring contest!

She has a younger sister who is currently fighting cancer and also has Down syndrome. Drawing has become an outlet for her, and she said if she won she wanted to buy her little sister a present with the prize money.

Thank you so much!

R. Trolliver
North Little Rock,
Arkansas

Back issues gift . . .

I had the privilege and blessing of being given four back issues of your *Creation Illustrated* magazine as a Christmas present. I want you to know that I think your publication is one of the highest quality printed pieces, for both production and content, I have encountered in many years.

First, let me tell you that I was the head of the New Hampshire State printing agency for twenty-seven years and encountered every kind of printing during that

time. I am also a former pressman. Thus, I know high quality printing, and yours ranks in the very top!

Secondly, as my second career, I became a pastor more than twenty years ago, and I am so thankful for the writing and content of your articles, which always lift up and give credit to God (and include His Word) in every piece written.

Thank you for this beautiful breath of fresh air and for the teaching of God's truth.
Pastor J. Dufour
Cherryfield, Maine

Poem shared . . .

When one of my beloved brothers passed away suddenly last year, you kind publishers gave us permission to reprint an amazing photo and poem (from the fall 2019 edition about the sea, the sand, and God's love), which I mailed to more than a hundred people in loving memory of my brother.

Thank you, and God bless you. Christ is Risen!


E. Baddour,
Fort Wayne, Indiana

RE-CREATION OUTDOORS

Olympic National Park

BY CAROLE RODGERS





The massive grandeur of a large man-made edifice can inspire awe, a sense of our comparatively diminutive stature, and even a spiritual swell in our hearts—especially a large church with towering arches, stained-glass windows, and cavernous echoes. Now multiply that experience several fold while surrounded by the splendor of God’s majestic outdoors within a natural wooded cathedral.

Come with me to such a place where glorious wonders of His creation can uplift the heart and transform the soul. Washington State claims seven natural wonders, and in my fifty-plus years as a Washingtonian, I’d visited all but one. So, one bright and sunny morning



© Tom & Pat Leeson

Lush verdure, decaying wood, and draping moss fill the rain forest.



Harry Christensen

CATHEDRAL IN THE WOODS

a good friend and I journeyed to this sublime place—The Hoh Rain Forest—where we could embrace the promise of Isaiah 33: 17, “Your eyes will see the King in His beauty.”

The Hoh Rain Forest, located in Western Washington’s Olympic National Park, is actually one of four rain forests in the state, each unique in its own way. But the Hoh is more than unique—it stands as a cathedral in the woods. You won’t find a pulpit there—no seating, no crosses, no organ. It is a monument to its holy Creator! In fact, the word *cathedral* comes from the Latin term *cathedra*, which means chair or throne where church hierarchy holds positions of leadership. So, we in a sense ventured into the throne room where the Creator and the Holy Spirit could lead us and minister to our souls.

And should you decide to come with us, come with your spiritual eyes open and ready to see the handiwork of the One who made it all as promised in Isaiah 33: 17. “Your eyes will see the king in all his splendor” (NLT). Listen carefully, and you’ll hear not only the song of the forest robin but even the trees. Yes! “Then the trees of the forest will sing for joy before the Lord” (1 Chronicles 16: 33, NASB).

Traveling down Highway 101 from Olympia, Washington, we stopped to stretch our legs at the inviting Kalaloch Lodge perched high on a bluff overlooking the mighty Pacific Ocean. The view of the ocean was breathtaking, but we didn’t linger. This day belonged to the Hoh.

Shortly after leaving Kalaloch, we reached the turnoff for the last 17 miles of our journey. The left side of the roadway was graced with tall, stately trees while to our right a sun-sparkling river made its way gently downstream. And then it happened; moss-laden trees began to appear—a preview of things to come. My heart leaped with joy at the wonder and allure of it all. Only a God of love could create in a way such as this in bestowing such splendid joy.



A black-tailed deer frolics on Rialto Beach.



Banana slugs are abundant in the moist habitat.

NPS

“Then the trees of the forest will sing . . .”

Yes! The Hoh holds a chapter in God’s great love story expressed through nature and written just for you and for me. Every element of the forest speaks His benevolence. He’s taken every tree, plant, the earth, its nutrients, and even the decomposing debris and combined them with ample rain, fog, mist, and sunlight to assemble this glorious gift of a forest cathedral—a place of wonder and worship.

As for the congregation of this living natural edifice unto God, it varies from the magnificent Roosevelt elk to the timid black-tailed deer to the Olympic black bear to the delighted birds and even to the tiny tree frog. And if you listen carefully, you just might catch the hooting of a northern spotted owl. Dare I mention bobcats and cougars? They’re here but rarely seen.

And don’t miss the amazing yet slimy banana slug—the second largest species of land slugs in the world, reaching up to ten inches in length and weighing as much as a quarter of a pound. And of all these diverse creatures God said, “‘And to every beast of the earth and every bird of the sky and to every thing that moves on the earth which has life, I have given every green plant for food’ . . . [and] God saw all that He had made, and behold, it was very good” (Genesis 1:30, 31, NASB), which is just like our heavenly Father to provide for all His creation.

The Hoh Rain Forest is called that for a reason. Compared to Seattle’s 36 inches of rain a year, the Hoh gets as much as fourteen feet a year plus the equivalent of another thirty inches from the prevalent fog and mist. No wonder the air is filled with such a pungent, earthy fragrance. Ah, but there’s a much sweeter fragrance, and it comes from the very heart of this Lord of the cathedral—Jesus Christ, who “gave Himself up for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God as a fragrant aroma” (Ephesians 5: 2, NASB).



Harry Christensen

Disfigured trees are common in the Hoh.



© Tom & Pat Leeson

CLUMPS OF MOSSY CHIFFON

Due to the heavy growth of moss covering the trees, one can hardly see that most of the trees in the forest are Sitka spruce and Western hemlock, which can reach over three hundred feet in height and seven feet in diameter. Reverently they stand in silent grace, draped in huge clumps of mossy chiffon and buttressed by fanning fern fronds. Fortunately, moss is an *epiphyte* (a plant that grows on other plants without causing harm), and it thrives by getting nutrients from the air, rain, fog, and decaying debris.

And just how does this display of cascading verdure relate to God's love story? It's all about being properly *robed* as the prophet Isaiah wrote, "For He has clothed me with garments of salvation, He has wrapped me with a robe of righteousness" (Isaiah 61:10, NASB). We who are God's children have the privilege of being wrapped in such robes of Christ's righteousness, and by them we are made worthy to stand humbly and reverently before our Father on that day of judgment.

Moving deeper into the forest, we find ourselves in the awesome "Hall of Mosses." In this quiet place we're reminded of other halls—halls where Jesus stood on His way to Calvary. Only those halls weren't so quiet. First it was the Sanhedrin's infamous hall of judgment: "When it was day, the Council of elders of the people assembled, both chief priests and scribes. . . . Then the whole body of them rose and brought Him before Pilate" (Luke 22:66 and 23:1, NASB). And it was there, in Pilate's hall of judgment, with the crowds shouting "'Crucify Him!'" (John 19:15, NASB) that the verdict was determined and settled. "And Pilate pronounced sentence that their demand be granted" (Luke 23:24, NASB).

Some might think in viewing this cathedral that it's a woods lacking in beauty. The trees appear somewhat grotesque and misshapen due to the weight of the moss, but in looking



A Roosevelt elk herd with numerous calves wades across the Queets River.



Turkey tail fungi cling to a tree trunk.

Renae Smith

“If I be lifted up from the earth . . .”

through one's spiritual eyes, we can appreciate a wonderful hidden mastery there. The prophet Isaiah tells us of a long-ago tree—a Cross—and a Man hanging from it, bowed over from the weight of our sins. The crucifixion's pain, suffering, and sacrifice of God's Son presented a very grotesque scene. “Surely He has borne our griefs . . . yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But He was wounded for our transgressions . . . and by His stripes we are healed” (Isaiah 53: 4, 5). “So His appearance was marred more than any man” (Isaiah 52:14, NASB).

Were it not for the grotesque suffering of Christ as He slumped on the Cross misshapen by the weight of the sins of the world, there would be no salvation for humans. So, what is it about that cruel cross that speaks of beauty? “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life” (John 3:16, KJV). Jesus said, “And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me” (John 12: 32, NASB 2020). The attraction is found in the One who sacrificed all for us upon the Cross.

As for the allure of the grotesque and misshapen trees of the rain forest cathedral, it is in their being used of God to draw men to this quiet place for soul-searching, contemplation, and encountering the Lord of the forest—Christ the Creator Himself. With every step taken in these woods, the story of God's great love unfolds more and more—the multicolored artist's conk and turkey tail fungi, the multiple species of towering trees, and the lettuce lichen that the deer, elk, and other creatures find quite tasty.

When's the best time to come to the rain forest? Summer and fall are always nice, but winter and spring precipitation and lingering dampness gives the moss a bold and luscious green brightness. Add to this the late April wildflowers, skunk cabbage flowers, fungi blooms,



© Stone Nature Photography



Renae Smith

Ferns, mosses, and fungi flourish in the rich rain forest.

JUST STOP AND LISTEN

and rushing streams full of tiny young salmon, and you can embrace multiple blessings! But the very best time to come is when your soul needs relief from the pressures of life. We all need times of rest, reflection, and renewal.

Zephaniah wrote, “The Lord your God is with you, the Mighty Warrior who saves. He will take great delight in you; in his love he will no longer rebuke you, but will rejoice over you with singing” (Zephaniah 3:17, NIV). And what better place to experience such love; His presence is there, and He who is mighty to save is ready to receive you. He who takes great delight in you, who longs to quiet you with His love and rejoice over you with singing, says, “Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest” (Mark 6:31, NIV11).

Just stop and listen. The trees are already singing for joy, and the King of kings in all His glory invites you, “Come!” **C**

Carole Rodgers writes from Olympia, Washington, where she enjoys exploring the wonder of Creation in order to share with others the restorative blessings she gains.



Harry Christensen

The Hall of Mosses invites a worshipful repose.

Splitting

Hares

Occasional coyote visits and bobcat sightings prove secondary to one creature seen almost every day—cottontail rabbits. In fact, three or four rabbits at a time will huddle beneath the tree in our front yard or hide out around the swing set in the back. They scamper under our fence fleeing the dog next door, and they enjoy shade wherever they can find it. Not surprisingly, they love to feast on the grass, and yes, we call them all Peter.

Residing in a far-north suburb of Dallas, Texas, means we aren't in the middle of a big city, but we aren't out in the country either. We live in a zone where it isn't strange for some form of wildlife to wander through our yard.

Our four kids often try to sneak up on the rabbits, but thanks to having eyes on the sides of their heads, rabbits can see almost a full three hundred and sixty degree panorama without ever having to move

**By Aaron Sharp
with Tom Ish**





Renae Smith



A hare (above) will run, jump, and dart from predators, whereas rabbits (left) will hide in the nearest impression in the ground. The Bible teaches us to run a good race to the end. "The Tortoise And The Hare" story reveals that steady persistence wins over irregular starts and stops.



“Whoever has ears, let them hear.”

—Matthew 11:15, NIV

their heads. So, we haven't gotten close to one of our furry friends yet, and perhaps the apostle Paul had an object lesson of rabbits in mind to illustrate Ephesians 5:15 when he said, “So then, be careful how you walk, not as unwise people but as wise” (NASB).

Physically, rabbits are fascinating creatures. As superb jumpers, they bound as high as three feet and as far as ten feet. Serving a greater purpose than just floppy cuteness, their ears keep them cool by helping their body heat escape through all of the blood vessels. And, because they can rotate their erect ears as much as two hundred and seventy degrees, they can provide even better hearing and sensory protection than their eyesight. Maybe if the alertness of rabbits had been observed by the disciples, they would've understood what Jesus meant when he kept saying, “Whoever has ears, let them hear” (Matthew 11:15, NIV).

The terms *rabbit* and *hare* often get used synonymously, but certain differences separate them. Both rabbits and hares have characteristic long ears and long hind legs, but hares tend to be larger and faster, which helps them in the open habitats they prefer. Hares (with thirty different species) sprint away from predators, while rabbits (with three hundred and five domesticated breeds) dart to the nearest hiding place among trees and shrubs. To further convolute the issue, the terms get used interchangeably, i.e., a *jackrabbit* is not a rabbit; it is a hare.

Regardless of what you call them, rabbits and hares notoriously dart, dash, and turn on a dime with their unpredictable start-and-stop maneuvers that call to mind the famous fable “The Tortoise and the Hare”—a life lesson that those who are consistent and

persevere often outperform those that are flashy and erratic. Paul reminds us of the importance of staying focused and finishing the race of proclaiming the gospel in 2 Timothy 4:7, “I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.”

Additional differences between rabbits and hares include the fact that at birth rabbits are blind and hairless, whereas hares don hair and can see to fend for themselves very quickly after birth. The correct term for a young hare is a *leveret*, and a young rabbit is called a *kitten* or *kit*; yet, both are commonly referred to as *bunnies*. The cottontail species we observe around our home fall into the rabbit category rather than hares, but we don't want to be splitting hairs by getting too technical about hares vs. rabbits.

So, why do they have a white cottontail when the rest of their body is brown and camouflaged? As with many creatures, they have adapted to avoid predators, and the light tail is a decoy that appears as their head or eyes to confuse an attacker. Such adaptations are not a sign of evolution, however. In fact, some species like the snowshoe hare have fur that changes color annually—white in the winter and reddish-brown in the summer. Their extra-large feet can also allow them to maneuver in fresh snow. Even with such variations, rabbits and hares have not evolved from their original *kind* as the Bible categorizes animals.

For all of their cuddly charms, rabbits themselves would probably be surprised to be associated with the resurrection season and the Easter holiday. They don't have anything to do with the story of Jesus' resurrection from the dead, and they certainly don't lay eggs. History reveals that since

“‘And the hare, because it chews the cud but does not part the hoof, is unclean to you.’”

—Leviticus 11:6, ESV

ancient times, rabbits and eggs have been pagan symbols of fertility with spring being a time of rebirth and new life. Rabbits are notoriously prolific with little kits taking only a month to be born compared to humans that gestate for nine months. Not only that, but female rabbits can give birth to as many as twelve kits at a time, which can happen as many as eight times a year! This may be part of the reason they can be found on every continent except Antarctica with about two hundred million feral rabbits considered pests in Australia. So, it really shouldn't be a surprise that ancient festivals and traditions that celebrated new birth in the spring include rabbits as a symbol.

Perhaps one of the most fascinating things about rabbits is watching them eat. If you've ever watched a bunny chow down, they chew and chew and chew, and then they chew some more, which grinds down their teeth. Fortunately, a rabbit's teeth never stop growing. In fact, did you know that the only two times rabbits are mentioned in the Bible relates to their chewing? In Leviticus 11 God listed animals that the Israelites weren't to eat and He said, *“‘And the hare, because it chews the cud but does not part the hoof, is unclean to you’”* (Leviticus 11:6, ESV). And Deuteronomy 14:7 adds, *“‘Yet of those that chew the cud or have the hoof cloven you shall not eat these: the camel, the hare, and the rock badger, because they chew the cud but do not part the hoof, are unclean for you’”* (ESV).

You might not see a problem there, but some people look at those verses and conclude that they provide glaring proof that the Bible isn't accurate. They claim that what the Bible says about rabbits is factually wrong, and if the Bible gets facts wrong,

you can't trust it. The issue is that those two verses described rabbits as “chewing the cud,” but rabbits don't do this the way we understand certain animals like cows, deer, sheep, and goats chew their cud. Chewing cud means (be warned that this is a little disgusting if you don't like to talk about food being digested) that these animals eat food and then bring that food back up from their stomach to be chewed for a second time. While this may seem a little repulsive, wait until you hear what cute little bunnies do. Rabbits (and you were warned that this isn't an animal fact for the faint of heart) eat and digest their food, poop it out, and then eat it again. I warned you it was going to be gross, but this may help convince people why the Bible says rabbits are unclean to eat.

So, is the Bible wrong about rabbits? Do the writers of the Bible make a mistake when they say that rabbits chew the cud? Is this a zoological mistake that should shake our faith in the Bible as God's Word? Quite simply, the answer is a resounding *no*! The Bible doesn't get this wrong, and yes, you can trust God's Word completely.

There are three good reasons why you shouldn't let this rabbit ruckus trouble you. First, we have to remember that the Bible was written in other languages thousands of years ago. Greek and Hebrew are the main ones, but there's Aramaic and a splash of words and phrases from other languages, as well. This doesn't mean that you can't trust the Bible you read in English, but it does mean there are times when we have to work to understand it. The Bible isn't a science textbook written in English a couple of years ago. The Hebrew words translated to “chew the cud” mean to bring digested food back to the mouth, but



The long ears of the hare (left) help regulate heat as well as catch any threatening sounds. Bunnies huddle safely in their nest (above), while a snowshoe hare (below) tries to escape a predator in the soft snow.



© Tom & Pat Leeson



Nearly constant chewing fills the life of rabbits (above) that have big appetites (right). Cottontail rabbits (below) are a common species like this one found in the author's yard.



“I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.”

—2 Timothy 4:7

to ancient writers who were not modern-day animal experts, rabbits and cows appear to do the same thing. Those words fit what they saw, and it was how they described the behavior of rabbits.

This brings us to the second point. Our way of scientifically classifying animals isn't the same as that of the ancient Israelites. They didn't have the categories that we do after thousands of years of animal study. To an Israelite living in biblical times, any animal that chewed their food again a second time could be said to “chew the cud.” They didn't distinguish where the food came from. We have to understand that our way of organizing animals is different, but that doesn't mean it is the only way it's ever been done.

Thirdly, we have to remember that the Bible was written in a way that the people who first read it could understand. When Moses wrote those books, he wasn't thinking about making the truth clear for you and me. He didn't know that one day somebody in Texas would see a bunch of rabbits in his yard. Moses needed to make the truth clear for the Israelites he was leading. Now, the goal of people who translate the Bible into modern languages is to make God's Word attainable. We live four thousand years later, and halfway around the world, which may mean that today we have to do a little more work to understand things sometimes.

Rabbits are a great reminder of some important truths. They remind us that God's Word is just as true today as it was when it was written. We may think differently than the first people to read the Bible; we may talk differently; we may have additional knowledge to help us better understand the details of

God's creation. The rabbit's brief appearance in the Bible teaches us that God's words were true thousands of years ago, and they are still true today! **C**

Aaron Sharp writes from Little Elm, Texas, where he and his wife Elaina both earned their master's degrees in Theology and now raise their four children who inspire them to learn more about parenting and share vital life lessons with others. In addition to serving as an IT director for a media company, he has authored five books and several magazine and newspaper articles, blogs, and videos—some of which can be found at www.oursharpology.com. Tom Ish has served as editor and publisher of Creation Illustrated magazine for 28 years.



Rena Smith

Sensational

C R E A T I O N U P C L O S E,



Soft, fragile blossoms contrast the cacti prickly spines.



Massive baobab trees

High on the rocky slopes of the Andes Mountains in Southern Bolivia and Northern Argentina, the tiniest plant of the succulent family can be found growing between boulders and in sheltering crevices. Camouflaged among the stones and shale, each cactus is so small it would fit on the tip of your finger.

In late spring it produces white or pink flowers that are sometimes bigger than the plant itself. *Blossfeldia liliputana* sometimes grows as a

solitary plant and sometimes in clusters of gray-green discs sprouting tufts of wool-like fibers. Although diminutive in appearance, this plant has an amazing ability to survive. In their natural habitat, these minuscule cacti can lose almost all of their water and shrink until they appear to be flat and lifeless on the rocks then completely recover when moisture becomes available again.

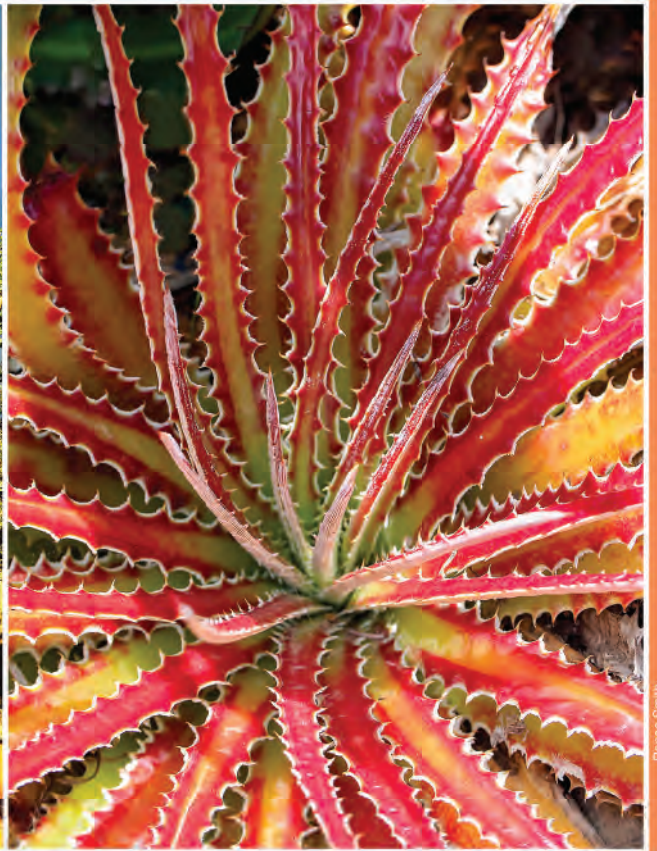
In contrast, on the other side of the world the extremely hot and arid African Savannah creates the natural habitat for the largest succulent plant. With its

Succulents

B Y J E A N V A N H O U T E N



in the African Savannah dwarf other succulents.



Sawtooth leaves ward off intruders.

iconic skeletal silhouette against a desert sunset, the strange baobab tree forms a familiar sight in Africa. When bare of leaves, the tree's spreading branches look like its roots are sticking up in the air as if it is growing upside down.

A smooth, shiny, pinkish bark distinguishes baobabs, and during the rainy season they absorb water and store it in their barrel-shaped trunks. Baobab trees produce edible fruit and support many creatures in a harsh, unforgiving environment. They live for hundreds of years, can grow to heights of 75

feet, and can reach diameters of sixteen feet or more. One ancient hollow baobab tree in Zimbabwe has grown so large that up to forty people can stand inside its trunk. Baobabs have been used as shops, houses, and bus shelters.

This fascinating and diverse world of succulents displays God's masterful design that provides an endless kaleidoscope of colors, textures, shapes, and sizes. "Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and

were created” (Revelation 4:11, KJV).

The succulent family is huge. In fact, there are approximately sixty different plant families that contain succulents and more than ten thousand known species of succulents around the world. They may differ greatly in appearance and grow in different hemispheres, but all succulent plants share a common family characteristic—the ability to store water in their stems, leaves, and /or roots. This allows the plants to survive in periods of drought and to grow in barren landscapes with poor soil. Many succulents have leaves that appear swollen, and some have waxy leaves that prevent evaporation.

The variety in the succulent family seems an endless array of artistry. For example, the leaves of echeverias grow in intricate rosettes in shades of green, gray, blue, purple, orange, pink, and multicolored. Other succulents come in every shade of green with countless patterns and textures including plain, variegated, striped like a zebra, and spotted like fawns. Snake plants and some varieties of agave

produce tall, sword-like leaves—some smooth and some twisted and crinkled on the edges.

Such diverse characteristics yet all a part of one botanical group with similar traits point to the diversity among the human race with its endless variety of sizes, shapes, colors, hair types, beliefs, and temptations. While people can have their own genealogical family, all are part of the family of God as told in Galatians 3:28. “There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus” (ESV).

Unusual succulent species like the *Senecio rowleyanus* produce strings of green pearls while its cousin *Senecio radicans* grows strings of banana-like leaves. *Crassula perforate*, or *string of buttons*, has stems and leaves that stack on top of each other in columns until they tip over and cascade over their container’s edge. The burro’s tail sedum produces long, sweeping leaves, but many sedums stay short and make excellent ground covers. Some succulents produce stunning, brightly-colored flowers while



A variety of colors, shapes, and textures characterize the vast family of succulents.



Pearl-like bulbs form

others simply display extraordinarily unique foliage.

Cacti have many adaptations that make them drought-tolerant like shallow roots that soak up rainfall quickly and waxy fleshy stems that store water. All cacti are succulents, but not all succulents are cacti. Cacti don't have leaves and are distinguished from the rest of the succulent family by the rounded indentations along their stems. From these modified buds, called *areoles*, spring the prickly spines for which cacti are best known. The spines can be as thin as hairs or thick as nails, extremely sharp, and can inflict great pain, but they provide multiple functions to help cacti thrive in desert environments. They protect the plant from predators, create shade, help regulate temperature, reduce water loss, and even help the plant to spread and reproduce.

Cacti belong to the plant family Cactaceae that includes about fourteen hundred species. With the exception of the Christmas cactus, which is native to the rainforests of Brazil and one species that grows in the tropics of Africa, cacti grow mostly in arid regions

of North and South America. Cactus plants come in all sizes and shapes from short, round balls to tall, narrow rods. Some produce colorful flowers and edible fruit.

The saguaro cactus is native to the American Southwest and is an amazing example of surviving in the desert on stored water. The saguaro grows extremely slowly as a ten-year-old plant might be only one inch tall. Somewhere on the way to age 50, it grows its first crown of flowers, but it may not grow its first arm until age fifty or seventy-five. A full-grown saguaro may stand forty to sixty feet tall and may have many arms. When rain is plentiful, the ribs of the cactus expand like an accordion as the stem and arms fill up with life-sustaining water. A fully hydrated saguaro can weigh more than two tons and can live up to two years without fresh water.

While we can retain some of the water we take in, we must have literal liquid every day just as we must figuratively drink of the water of the Holy Spirit daily through the regeneration of God's Word. "In



cascading strands.



Familiar saguaro cacti pierce the desert horizon.



Succulents offer artistic expression to horticulturalists.

the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us" (Romans 8:26, NIV). And as we daily exercise our faith in His faithfulness, John 7:38 promises, "Anyone who believes in me may come and drink! For the Scriptures declare, 'Rivers of living water will flow from his heart'" (NLT), which provides an abundant supply of life-giving *water* to share with those who thirst.

Succulent plants have become trendy with both indoor and outdoor gardeners of any age and experience. Succulents are showing up nearly everywhere and get featured in decorating magazines, sold at arts and crafts shows, and stocked at more traditional venues like greenhouses and gardening stores. Landscape designers prize them for their intriguing shapes, sizes, and endless variety of colors. Succulents can be planted in the ground or grown vertically in frames creating unique works of art and living succulent walls.

The familiar *hen and chicks* is the common name for a group of small succulents with the scientific name, *Sempervivum*. The name comes from the large rosette shape of the *hen* and the habit of the plant to produce numerous *babies* around it. I am reminded of the tender word picture Jesus used when He said, "How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings" (Matthew 23:37, ESV).

Some varieties of succulents are edible, as cacti, and their fruit are frequently used in Mexican cuisine. Wide, flat cactus pads called *nopales* are stripped of their thorns and sliced into salads, as well as included in jellies, soups, and stews or served as a vegetable. Prickly pear cactus fruit tastes very sweet and can be eaten raw right off the plant. A common lawn weed called *purslane* can add a nutritious twist to salads. The fruit that grows inside the hard pods that hang from the branches of the baobab tree provides much-cherished nutrients and vitamins.



Hens and chicks huddle in botanical clusters.



Aloe vera leaves drip with healing, juicy gel.

The juice from the aloe vera plant is also packed with nutrients and vitamins and is touted by some to lower cholesterol and improve liver function.

However, for most of us, aloe vera with its long fleshy leaves and spiny edges, is better known for its medicinal properties and cosmetic use. The gel-like inner portion of the leaves is widely used to treat sunburn and dry skin because of its softening and hydrating properties. It is also anti-inflammatory and aids in the healing of wounds.

The dictionary defines *succulent* as “full of juice: or juicy”—an accurate description of many succulent plants. Stored water makes the plants tough enough to survive environmental challenges. This stored-up wellspring of moisture reminds us of the conversation between Jesus and a Samaritan woman who had come to draw water from Jacob’s well. Jesus offered her living water that He underscored will never run dry. “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks of the water

that I will give him will never be thirsty forever. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life” (John 4:13, 14, ESV).

She didn’t understand that *living water* was a metaphor for the Holy Spirit who intercedes, refreshes, and comforts us in our weakness. That spring of living water brings hope and healing, as well as joy and peace that helps the believer resilient enough to survive the challenging times, to live abundantly, and to still be succulent enough to share the abundance of divine, life-giving moisture with those in need.

*Jean Van Houten writes from Hudsonville, Michigan, where she closely examines interesting and educational aspects of God’s creation to impart to others. **C***



Light takes many forms.

*"In the beginning God
created the heavens
and the earth.
The earth was without
form, and void; and
darkness was on the
face of the deep.
And the Spirit . . .*

CREATION DAY 1

■ BY SHARON VAN BILJON
WITH JENNIFER ISH

The Creation of Light

Editor's Note: This article is the first part in our twelfth series of features that focus on the Creation week. Some days are divided into segments, and in the next issue we will explore the second day of the Creation week when God created the firmament. Each series of stories varies with new writers and fresh images. We hope you enjoy this closer look at God's handiwork aimed at inspiring you to study His Word in depth.



Renee Smith


Darkness was on the face of the deep.

The book of Genesis chronicles the Creation week in a very brief, encapsulated way; yet, the establishment of profound elements, such as original light that was spoken into existence on Creation day one, deserve profound study.

We read in the first few verses of the Bible, “In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. 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. Then God said, ‘Let there be light’; and there was light. And God saw the light, that it was good; and God divided the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night. So the evening and the morning were the first day” (Genesis 1:1–5).

Many readers of Scripture may wonder about this light that was created on day one well before the creation of the sun on the fourth day of the Creation week. Skeptics often question how there could be light before the sun was present, or if light can exist independently from the heavenly bodies. Certainly various sources and types of light other than the sun exist. Light can be produced by chemicals (such as in the humble firefly), by friction, by fusion, and by powerful lightning bolts.

But the light that the Bible mentions more than two hundred fifty times throughout the Old and New Testaments is of divine nature. One interesting comparison to explore is the light of Genesis 1:3 with the light mentioned in Isaiah 60:20, “the Lord will



Light shines to expose truth.

be your everlasting light. . . .” What truths is God seeking to tell us about Himself by using this word *light*? The discovery of such deep and meaningful aspects starts with day one of Creation and ends in Revelation with the new earth.

A prolific writer on Creation and founder of the Institute for Creation Research, the late Dr. Henry M. Morris, explained in his book *The Genesis Record* that Genesis 1:3 is the first record of God speaking in the Bible, “Then God said, ‘Let there be light’; and there was light.” The Word of God brings light! The Father is the Source of all things (verse 1); the Spirit is the energizer of all things (verse 2); the Word is the revealer of all things (verse 3).

The New Testament then endorses this Creation view in 2 Corinthians 4:6, “For . . . God who commanded light to

shine out of darkness who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.” Who is Jesus?—He is the living Word of God (John 1:1, 14), the “light of the world” (John 8:12).

A Judeo-Christian definition of light rests on the provision that God is the Source of spiritual illumination and strength. But exploring how the light works and the exact purpose of it in our lives is essential for our eternal well-being. Light is intended to reveal complete understanding as opposed to the function of darkness, which is to hide truth and cause confusion. Seeking illuminated understanding will give us tremendous insight into things we never saw or noticed before on our life’s journey. Psalm 119:105 points to the illumination

*of God was hovering
over the face of
the waters.
Then God said, 'Let
there be light'; and
there was light. And
God saw the light, that
it was good; . . .*



One flame can dispel darkness.

provided by Scripture to show us the way in this dark world. "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." John 8:12 clearly reveals the Source of this light: "Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, 'I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life.'"

Even a child knows that light dispels darkness by driving it away and filling up or taking over the space that the darkness previously occupied. Quite simply, light is more powerful than darkness, and we can easily understand through personal experience that darkness does not have the power to dispel light. While we don't know if the psalmist was afraid of the dark, we do know he relied on the Source of light to assuage fear. "The Lord is my light and my

salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?" (Psalm 27:1). The New Testament once again echoes this message in John 1:4, "In Him was life, and the life was the light of men."

We all know that light makes seeing possible, and we all need to be able to see as clearly as possible. When a light is shining, the rapid changes that take place in the eye will bring things into focus. At times we can vaguely see something in dim light, but being correctly focused in ample light allows for discovering details and deep knowledge. The ability to focus helps us concentrate on an area of concern in order to find a solution or resolve an issue. The greater the light, the greater the detail and focus that brings a high level of concentration,



Give Flowers That Won't Fade!

Mother's Day will be here soon—among the largest flower sales times of the year! Give a bouquet of blessings that comes all year to mothers, grandmothers, the pastor's wife, shut-ins . . . !

• No Crowds • No Wrapping • No Shipping • No stress •

Creation Illustrated subscriptions include:

- inspiring spiritual lessons
- encouraging outdoor activities & gardening
- stunning photography
- wholesome recipes

At less than \$20 a year you can't afford not to give it!

Simply fill out the **Subscription Form** and mail it in the envelope provided or go to our Web site: www.CreationIllustrated.com or call (800) 360-2732



Get Subscriptions
HERE using your
Smart Phone.

Mother's Day in Prison

"I was in prison, and you visited me."

—Matthew 25:36



DEAR CREATION ILLUSTRATED,
My Roommate GAVE ME
your magazine, I found it beautiful, touching
and uplifting. GOD BLESS you ALL AND THE ONES
WHO HELP PROVIDE SUCH A BEAUTIFUL GIFT.

I WOULD GREATLY APPRECIATE IF YOU COULD ADD
ME TO RECEIVE YOUR MAGAZINE.
MY INFORMATION IS:

ANNE [REDACTED]
FMC CARSWELL
[REDACTED]
FORT WORTH TX



You can even
Donate right here
using your Smart
Phone camera.

We need YOUR HELP to reach mothers in prison! PLEASE DONATE.

We have thousands of copies ready to ship.

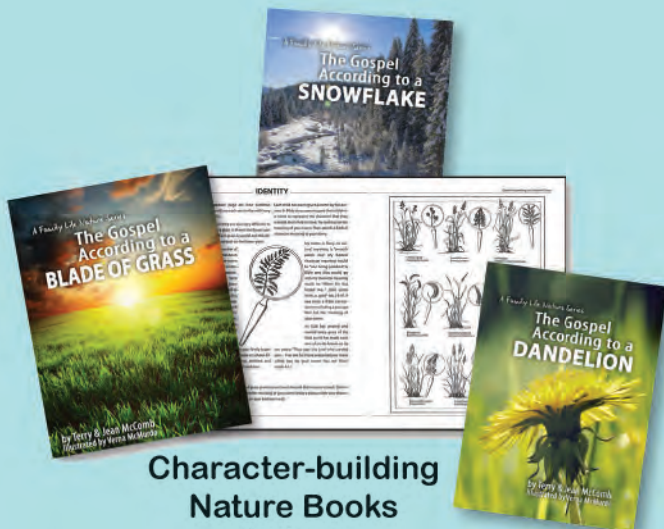
Use the Form & Envelope Provided OR Donate on Our Secure Site at:

www.CreationIllustrated.com

OR mail a check to: Creation Illustrated, PO Box 141103, Spokane Valley, WA 99214

A Tax Receipt will be sent along with HEARTFELT GRATITUDE for your generosity.

Creation Illustrated Ministries, Inc. is a 501 (c) 3 nonprofit organization.



**Character-building
Nature Books**
\$16.95
Hurry – Limited Supply



**Creation
Illustrated
Back Issues**
~~**\$4.99**~~
**now
\$3.99**

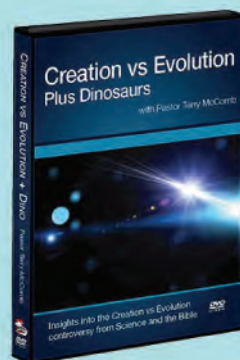
Educational Creation Tools!

Start SHOPPING at:
CreationIllustrated.com
Or Call: (800) 360-2732

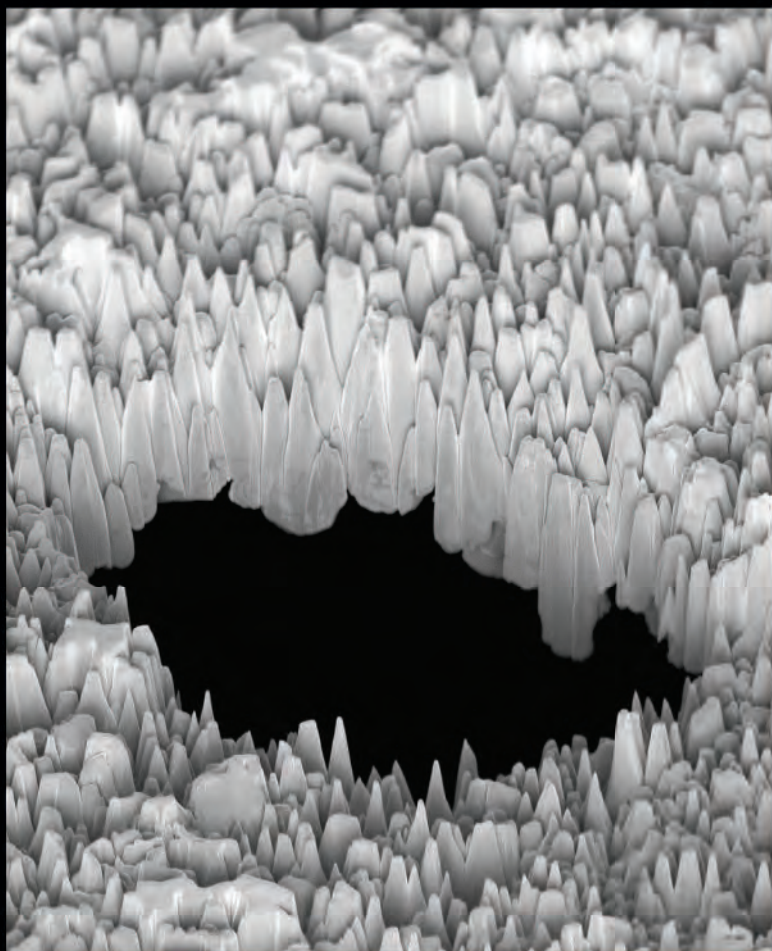
Visit our Store **HERE >>>**
using your Smart Phone
camera.



**Digital
Unit Studies**
~~**\$9.95**~~
**now
\$7.95**



**Creation
DVDs
from
\$12.95**



Light shows details and flaws in metal with an electron microscope.

*and God divided the
light from the darkness.
God called the light
Day, and the darkness
He called Night.
So the evening
and the morning
were the first day."*

—Genesis 1:1–5

sharpness, and clarity that allows discernment of the subject at hand.

With proper light, the eye adjusts and the mind interprets what it has not seen or noticed before. Details that previously went unnoticed will become clear and relevant, whereas fading light will not give us a clear picture. Spending quality time with the Lord, the Source of all light, will keep His illumination from fading from our lives as we personally connect with His power. To fully connect, two things must be joined or linked firmly together.

Lines of connection with the correct Source is vital, as artificial light or a copy can't substitute for the Original, and our hearts can discern the difference between a fake and the Original. Artificial light—both literal (light bulbs, chemicals)

and figurative (philosophy, ideas, bits of human wisdom)—may appear brilliant at first, but it is not very efficient and eventually will burn out. It is not Everlasting. With Everlasting Light (Jesus), we need not operate or control the light with our own strength or devising. Jesus clearly explains in Matthew 5:14–16, "You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven."

Clear conviction on the Source of true light will help us ask God to remove anyone or anything that tries to block our access to the Source. "Woe to



Light illuminates the proper pathway.

those who call evil good, and good evil; who put darkness for light, and light for darkness; who put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!" (Isaiah 5:20). But with choosing the divine Source of light comes its inherently revealing characteristic that uncovers the good and the bad along our journey. Light discloses unknown secrets and exposes that which was once hidden or covered—both purposely and/or innocently. Either way, we must view such discovery as beneficial information that can affect us eternally.

The promise in 1 John 1:7 reads, "But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin." A torch or flashlight shone in the darkness ahead of us can be a benefit that lights the way and

helps create a clear path by revealing any obstacles or traps. Daily use of the Word will also reveal any obstacles or traps in our spiritual walk.

In addition, light can serve as a signal, like a traffic light, which controls movement and directs us when to stop and when to go. Divine Light both illuminates and directs by supernatural means. It will bring conviction about previously unclear actions, whether to start or stop certain thoughts or behavior. This guidance not only benefits us, but it allows each of us to shine as a lighthouse that will guide and help others avoid life's shipwrecks.

But such light is not heavy-handed or forceful. Only God has enough power to make His light cutting or piercing. First John 1:5 clarifies, "This is the message



There will be no night there.

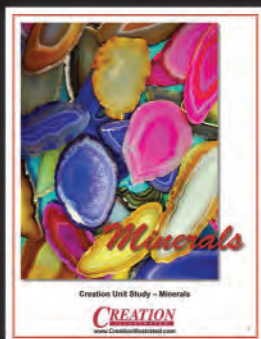
which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.”

We may never fully understand the qualities or the Source of original light that was spoken into existence on the first day of the Creation week until we fully study and experience it in the earth made new as described in Revelation 21:23, “The city had no need of the sun or of the moon to shine in it, for the glory of God illuminated it, and the Lamb is its light.” Revelation 22:5 goes on to explain, “There shall be no night there: They need no lamp nor light of the sun, for the Lord God gives them light. And they shall reign forever and ever.”

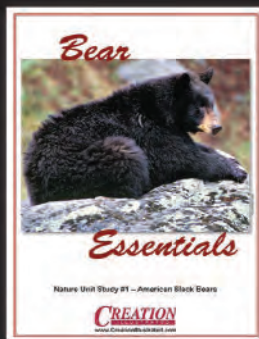
This is the Light we all need and should be drawn to every moment of every day through His Word, which

originates from the same Word that was spoken on the first day of Creation. **C**

Sharon Van Biljon writes from Durban, South Africa, where she studies God’s Word to better understand and share His revelations. Jennifer Ish is associate editor of Creation Illustrated. This article first appeared in the Spring 2010 edition of Creation Illustrated and has been adapted for reprinting.



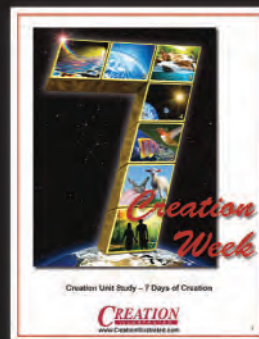
Minerals



Bears



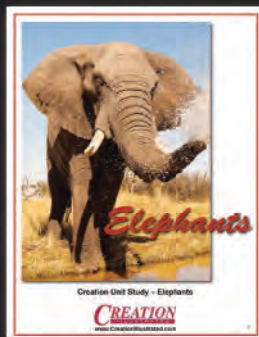
Butterflies



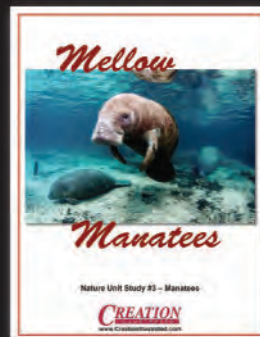
Creation Week



Orchids



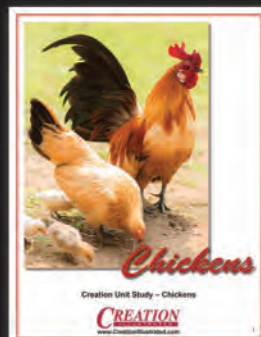
Elephants



Manatees



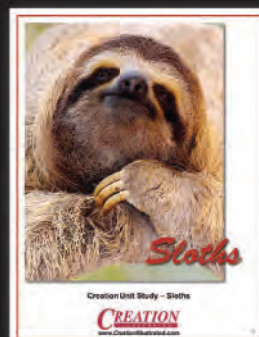
Horses



Chickens

PERFECT FOR CLASSROOM or AT-HOME LEARNING! Bible-based Unit Studies

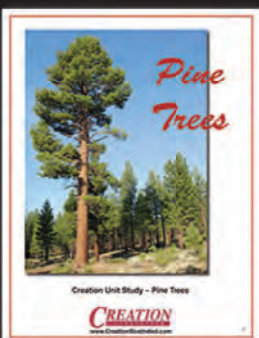
18 AVAILABLE Nature Unit Studies Include:
Science, History, Math, Bible Study,
Geography, Vocabulary, Art, Puzzles, Activities
& Character-building Lessons!
(plus homeschool/teacher answer key)



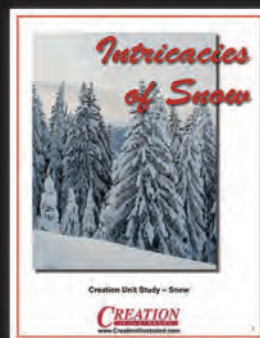
Sloths



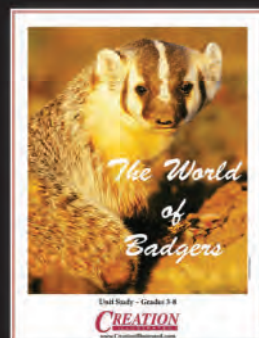
Fragrance



Pine Trees



Snow



Badgers

"But ask now the beasts, and they shall teach thee; and the fowls of the air, and they shall tell thee:
Or speak to the earth, and it shall teach thee . . ." —Job 12:7, 8

from the publishers of *Creation Illustrated* magazine

Order Downloadable Digital PDFs
(Reg. \$9.95) **NOW just \$7.95, SAVE 20%**
Go to: www.CreationIllustrated.com
Choose from 18 Unit Studies!

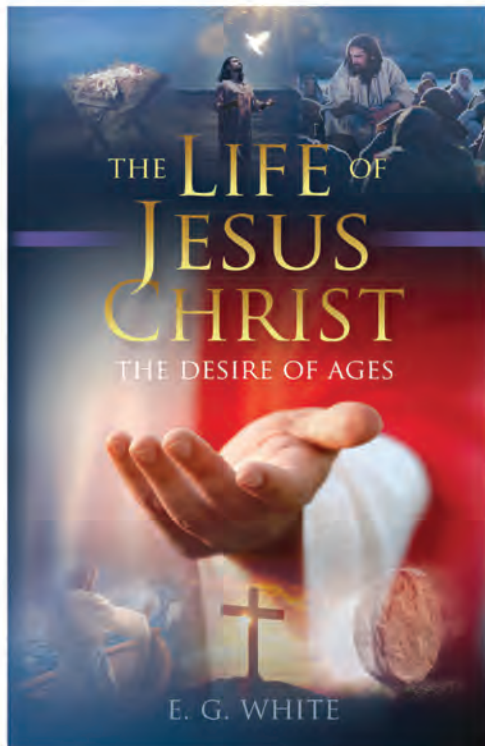


SEE them HERE with
your cell phone camera!



Exciting New Resources from Amazing Facts

Perfect for Personal Devotions and Sharing!



The Life of Jesus Christ: The Desire of Ages

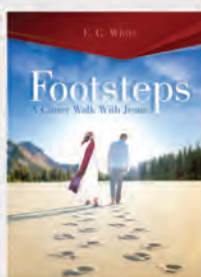
Explore the teachings, majesty, and grace of the world's Redeemer in this deep and stunning narrative classic on the life of Christ. Examine His works and incredible compassion for the human race—and experience His transforming power in your life!

BK-AFDA ... \$11.95 ~~\$3.95~~

BULK PRICING:

10+ \$3.90 ea. | 50+ \$2.65 ea. | 100+ \$1.70 ea.

500+ \$1.45 ea. | 1,000+ \$1.30 ea.



Footsteps: A Closer Walk with Jesus (Steps to Christ)

Discover a forever friendship with Jesus—or revive your love for Him—with this freshly designed, full-color version of the life-transforming classic!

**BK-FCW ... \$4.95
~~\$2.95~~**

Bulk pricing:

10+ \$1.49 ea. | 50+ \$0.89 ea. | 100+ \$0.75 ea.
500+ \$0.60 ea. | 1,000+ \$0.55 ea.



The Pathway to Peace: Walking Daily with Jesus (Steps to Christ)

This unique edition also includes 14 *Amazing Facts Study Guides*—easy-to-follow lessons covering vital Bible teachings!

**BK-PTP ... \$9.95
~~\$4.95~~**

Bulk pricing:

10+ \$3.95 ea. | 50+ \$2.45 ea. | 100+ \$1.45 ea.
500+ \$1.25 ea. | 1,000+ \$1.15 ea.



The Fall & Rise of Jerusalem: The Great Controversy Between Good and Evil

This captivating version of the beloved classic uncovers ancient history and mysterious biblical symbols to reveal what God's Word really says about Jerusalem!

**BK-AFGC ... \$9.95
~~\$3.80~~**

Bulk pricing:

10+ \$3.75 ea. | 50+ \$2.50 ea. | 100+ \$1.55 ea.
500+ \$1.30 ea. | 1,000+ \$1.15 ea.

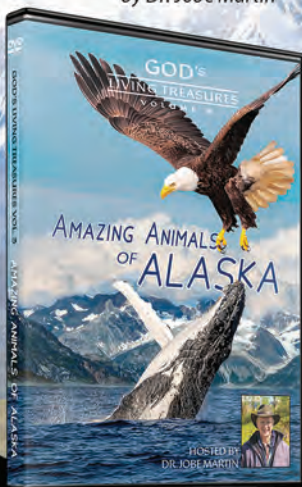


ORDER NOW at afbookstore.com.

Or call 800-538-7275, Mon–Thu, 8:30 am – 6:00 pm PT.

WWW.BIBICALDISCIPLESHIP.ORG

Announcing Volume 3 OF GOD'S LIVING TREASURES! by Dr. Jobe Martin



God's Living Treasures:
Amazing Animals
of Alaska
—
Volumes 1-3



CLICK ADS to ORDER

Read THE SACRED DAY

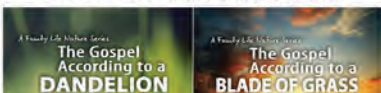
Available
on
Amazon.com

Remembering Creation
AND THE
Creator's Day

Terry McComb's Resources - Books & DVDs

To order visit us online: GospelCreation.com
instant video rentals and book downloads - online only,
Prices in CND funds, shipping extra.

Books: \$16.95 ea
or all 4 for \$69
plus FREE DVD!



Single DVD's:
\$12.95 ea



**Powerful
Bible-based
character lessons
for the WHOLE
family.**

Creation Evidence

Discover Nature's Lessons



Walk Through Creation

Biology for Kids!

www.GospelCreation.com

To book a nature seminar call toll free 1-866-847-6696

Discover Creation!



with
Alpha Omega
Institute

From the mountains to the tropics, enjoy
life-changing **camps** and **tours** that will
demonstrate the fallacies of evolution and help
you trust God's word beginning in Genesis.

AOI **seminars** are fun, affordable, and
engaging! To schedule a seminar in your area,
call **800-377-1923**. Visit
DiscoverCreation.org
for more info on camps,
seminars, training, and
curricula.



AOI

ALPHA OMEGA INSTITUTE

CREATION HIGHLIGHTS

Providing capsules of research on Creation to encourage the pursuit of Bible-based convictions.

Fossil Footprints

The impressions left by a creature walking or crawling in soft sediment that hardened and left identifiable tracks are called *trackways*. The location where these are found make them unusual. They consistently appear in rock layers below the bones and remains of the animals that made them.

Dr. Art Chadwick, professor of biology and geology, shows some controversial tracks in a slab of sandstone at the dinosaur museum in Texas. The angle and shape of these amphibian tracks was a bit curious. It appeared that the feet were pointing in one direction while the angle they were walking was in a slightly different direction. It was as if they were being pushed in a different direction than they wanted to go. Another colleague, Dr. Leonard Brand, professor of biology and paleontology, did extensive laboratory experiments with living amphibians and reptiles to see what they did in different settings. The results were fascinating. He reported that the experimental trackways that best matched the ones found in the Coconino sandstone were the ones made under water while struggling against a current.



Other research done by Dr. Kurt Wise in Death Valley, California, helps explain further. He was looking for trilobites in the lower layers and found only a handful, but as he moved higher up the rock layers, he found more burrows and eventually thousands. Further up he found complete tracks across the sediment. Then came a mass graveyard of billions of trilobite shells. Scientists have found this same sequence all over the world, which puzzles anyone who thinks the earth is very old.

A simple explanation shows that as layer upon layer of mud swept over the trilobites, they struggled to dig out of their tombs, then ran across the layer that had just covered them and made new tracks. But as successive layers piled on top of them, they eventually collapsed in exhaustion and died en masse.

This is an excellent example of how a creation scientist can look at the data that's been provided and offer a better explanation for it from the perspective of a global flood.

Condensed from an article as part of the *Is Genesis History?* movie. www.isgenesishistory.com/fossil-footprints

Time Needed to Form a Beach

There are multiple processes involved in the formation of beaches, and they act at different rates in different places. Interestingly, reconstructions of past sea-level changes indicate that the current sea level was reached and remained relatively stable only in the last few thousand years. This implies that almost all modern beaches were formed in that time frame.

The formation of a beach is not necessarily a long process in geological terms. For example, it is well known that beaches are rapidly established in coastal areas of newly formed volcanic islands. In the island of La Palma, Canary Islands, lava flowing from a volcanic eruption reached the ocean on September 29, 2021, and formed a delta-shaped rocky coastal feature. After less than two months, a beach of black sand and larger grains had formed on the south side of this land formation.

The small island of Surtsey, offshore Iceland, formed during a prolonged volcanic eruption that lasted from November 1963 to June 1967. As lava flowed to the ocean, it cooled and formed solid cliffs that were rapidly broken up by ocean waves during storms, forming a beach of rounded boulders and sand. Geologist Sigurdur Thorarinsson, who frequently visited the island during those years, documented that the beach formation occurred in less than three weeks!

Therefore, beach formation does not require a long period of time or a gradual accumulation of sediment and in some cases can form in just a few days after a rocky coastal feature has formed.

Condensed from an article by Raúl Esperante, PhD, Geoscience Research Institute, February 2022. www.grisda.org

CREATION STEWARDSHIP

Providing helpful suggestions on how to better care for God's Creation.

Sharing Facts and Figures

It is estimated that wildfires will become 50 percent more common in the next thirty years. Such infernos have devastated areas of California, Australia, Siberia, and many countries circling the Mediterranean just in 2021.

Fire affects an estimated four million square kilometers of the earth's land every year according to the research done at the European Space Agency. This 1.5 million square miles equals about half the size of the US, or an area larger than India.

Scientists use several low earth-orbit satellites to make measurements of the size and impact these fires have on climate, vegetation, and the atmosphere. A worsening cycle with more frequent droughts and higher temperatures make it easier for fires to start and spread. Then these fires release more carbon into the atmosphere as some regions burn through forests and peat-lands.

In the United States, officials recently unveiled a fifty billion dollar effort to reduce fire risks over the next decade by implementing more aggressive forests thinning around areas where nature and neighborhoods collide while working closely with local communities.

Tips For Simple Living

Spring brings the urge to do spring-cleaning of our closets, cupboards, and garages, but now outdoor spring cleaning has become even more important than indoors! With the growth of brush and branches in the wake of the rainy season, increased fire dangers encroach homes, rural communities, and even those living in urban areas.

Here are some helpful tips for outdoor cleaning and creating defensible space around your home as we seek to be good stewards of Creation.

- Seek to create a 30-foot zone of defensible open space immediately around your home.
- Clean up and dispose of branches, weeds, leaves, pine needles, grass clippings, and other loose fuels.
- Clean your gutters and roof by removing any dead leaves and debris.

- Screen in areas under porches or decks with eighth-inch wire mesh.
- Clean under any decking or porches.
- Stack all firewood thirty feet away from the house or any structures.
- Trim all trees and bushes so no branches hang over your roof.
- Prune tree branches to a height of six to ten feet, which helps reduce fire from *crowning* the trees.
- Cover exterior attic, eaves, and basement or crawl space vents with eighth-inch wire mesh to help prevent any sparks or embers from entering.
- Replace plants and trees with fire-resistant species.
- Replace wooden outdoor furniture with some made of metal.



Biblical Stewardship of Creation

Fire in Scripture is often used as a symbol of Jehovah's presence and a demonstration of His power. In Exodus 3:2 we get the powerful image of God talking to Moses at the burning bush, and in Exodus 14:19 we have the presence of God as a pillar of fire at night leading and protecting the children of Israel. Fire can be mysterious; it gives warmth and comfort but can also be destructive and horrifying. God uses it for cleansing.

The word *fire* occurs 549 times in the King James Version of the Bible. The Hebrew / Aramaic uses ten different words to describe fire in various uses and settings. In Greek there are nine different words for fire.

God sent fire from heaven to show His approval of the burnt sacrifices. In the end of time, this fire will consume all who turn away from the grace of God in the second death (see Revelations 21:8, 20:9) and will cleanse the earth in preparation for the new earth promised to God's redeemed in Revelation 21:1.

Fakahatch

A L E N S O N C R E A T I O N



Comet Leonard in the South Florida sky

this wild habitat began to stir within the watery forest of the Fakahatchee.

Fakahatchee, which means *dark water*, is the ancient name used by the indigenous people of Southern Florida for a long, narrow slough. The Fakahatchee lies on the western border of Florida's Big Cypress Swamp and the Everglades. This primeval swamp was once, and may still be, the haunts of the elusive ivory-billed woodpecker.

The Fakahatchee Strand is big. It stretches twenty miles long and is five miles wide. The strand encompasses eighty-five thousand acres of slow-moving fresh water that is inundated with bald cypress, strangler fig, pond apple, royal palm, and a dozen species of other trees and shrubs. The strand contains the second largest tract of old growth bald cypress in Florida and is home of the rare Florida panther, Florida black bear, and Everglade mink.

A drive through the strand along the eleven-mile auto trail or a trek along the mile-long boardwalk reveals a wonderland of massive trees reaching to sky with branches laden with native bromeliads and orchids. The strand truly reveals a unique place of stunning beauty, bringing to mind the words of Ezra, "Let the trees of the forest sing, let them sing for joy before the Lord, for he comes to judge the earth" (1 Chronicles 16:33, NIV).

The strand provides a

Amid the brilliant stars in the night sky, the object of my quest loomed just above the eastern horizon. While I had traveled to the Fakahatchee Strand of South Florida to photograph birds, I planned my arrival when Comet Leonard, the brightest comet of 2021, would be its most dazzling in South Florida's dark skies.

As I prepared my camera to photograph this celestial wonder, a barred owl far into the swamp barked its "Who, who, who cooks for you" call from deep within the strand. While the birds drew me south to the Fakahatchee, its dark skies, perhaps the darkest in Florida, gave me the opportunity to see and photograph one of the great marvels of God's creation in the heavens. As the darkness faded with the morning twilight, the barred owl became more vociferous, and other birds of



Red-bellied woodpecker

Bobby Harrison

Bobby Harrison

ee Strand

BY BOBBY HARRISON

home to South Florida's native bird species and a sanctuary for hundreds of species of birds that migrate through Florida on their journeys north and south each year. Some two hundred and seventy-six species of birds have been recorded in the Fakahatchee Strand. Resident species include anhinga, purple gallinule, osprey, pied-billed grebe, common and snowy egret, woodstork, black-crown and yellow-crown night heron, and many others. Woodpeckers abound within the heavily forested swamp. Northern flicker, downy, red-bellied, and pileated woodpeckers are plentiful, and rarely is there a moment when the call or drum of one of these species is not heard.

During the winter season, belted kingfishers can be seen throughout the strand. When the boreal cold grips the northland, kingfishers head south to find open waters in which to feed. The subtropical waters of the Fakahatchee rarely ever freeze; thus, the strand is a haven for the kingfisher and other birds that seek to escape freezing weather.

Like most wilderness areas, the Fakahatchee got attacked by man and became heavily logged in the 1940s. Fortunately, some people exhibited enough wisdom to see value in the Fakahatchee other than its timber. By the 1960s conservation efforts saved the remaining uncut forest, and once timber clearing stopped, the strand



Bobby Harrison

Woodstorks

began to regenerate.

As Job spoke millennia ago, "For there is hope for a tree, if it be cut down, that it will sprout again, and that its shoots will not cease" (Job 14:7, ESV). Today the Fakahatchee remains a thriving ecosystem. Though seen as a foreboding landscape by the casual observer, the Fakahatchee Strand flourishes a paradise of subtropical life. The beauty and peace found among its one thousand-year-old cypress groves bestow a haven, not only for the plants, birds, and animals but also a sanctuary for those of us who explore the trails of this ancient wilderness. **C**

Bobby Harrison writes from Oakwood University where he is an associate professor of photography. He also serves as CEO of The Ivory-Billed Woodpecker Foundation. Enjoy more of his work at:

www.bobbyharrison.blogspot.com



Bobby Harrison

Purple gallinule

Hiking

Amid

Spring blossomed with vibrant tree and wildflower hues igniting in me a backpacking fever for my favorite place—the Foothills Trail—that meanders for 77 miles along the border of the North Carolina/South Carolina state lines.

My daughter and I had day-hiked both ends of the trail, but the 38-mile center section required a full-on backpacking commitment. Experienced



Martin Wiles

B Y M A R T I N W I L E S



Obstacles

backpackers with sturdy feet could accomplish the feat in three days, but we needed five. Plus, we wanted to enjoy God's creation and not hurry through His dazzling springtime flower show.

The Foothills Trail began around the mid-1960s when a group of upstate South Carolina hiking enthusiasts joined up with Clemson University and the U.S. Forest Service. They sought to connect a series of existing trails scattered between Oconee and Table Rock State Parks. In time, the

Sierra Club, Duke Energy, and the South Carolina State Park system got involved. Back then the utility company was building the Bad Creek hydroelectric station, and they agreed to build and maintain the central part of the trail. By 1981 the backbone of the trail connecting Table Rock State Park and Oconee State Park was in place.

Since this journey took place early in our backpacking experiences (and because I am a Type-A personality who tends to worry), I packed more than

we needed. I justified the excess because I knew no place existed on this section of the trail to restock supplies or to meet any emergency needs. As a result, my daughter's pack weighed 35 pounds and mine 50—much too heavy for a 12-year-old middle schooler and a 38-year-old Dad not in the best of shape. But we had God's promise of Isaiah 46:4, "Even to your old age, I am He, and even to gray hairs I will carry you! I have made, and I will bear; even I will carry, and will deliver you."

Each day brought mixed blessings. Our backs and shoulders ached from the heavy loads, but our spirits renewed as we listened to the birds sing, gazed on the surrounding mountain peaks, and caught an occasional glimpse of other wildlife. Job 12:7–10 rang true as we let the birds of the air, the animals, and all Creation teach us. The most special part of each day came when arriving at our campsite, setting up our tent, and relaxing until nightfall.

Although we heard no humans, the sounds of God's nature deafened us from any of life's other distractions. I thought of what the psalmist wrote, "Let the heavens be glad, and the earth rejoice! Let the sea and everything in it shout his praise" (Psalm 96:11, NLT). We learned that pain and peace can coexist at the same time and in the same place.

At home other things seemed to get in the way of our father/daughter talks, but under God's heavenly canopy, we found ample time to experience what a

parent-child relationship should be. Each day we worked together to survive. We had no choice. We were out in the wilderness with no one but God and each other to rely upon.

Since spring had sprung upon the mountains, we searched for wildflowers as we lumbered along each day and stopped to look at the leaves of the budding trees. I had purchased a wildflower and tree identification book a couple of years prior and had become familiar with the most common species. We inhaled the *skunky* aroma of galax, identified the large leaves of Frazier magnolias, and stopped to gaze at the yellow trillium as it peaked up from the forest floor.

Our nightly suppers weren't anything to brag about—MREs (Meals Ready to Eat) that we merely added hot water to, but any type of cooking outdoors always tastes good. On our first night out, a father and his three sons joined us. His boys were amazed that a young girl would be in the woods

backpacking for five days. My daughter loved the attention, and we both devoured the popcorn they popped over an open fire.

The heavy foliage hid the sunsets; so, nightfall just suddenly came and felt long and a little unnerving since we were in bear country. Believing we were doing what pleased God—spending family time together—I claimed His protection over us. "In peace I will lie down and sleep, for you alone, O Lord, will keep me safe" (Psalm 4:8, NLT).

Our most anticipated destination was Horsepasture River. I had read about the river and the suspension (swinging) bridge that spanned the waterway. The "wild and scenic" river that features several predominant waterfalls winds 18-miles beginning in Jackson County, North Carolina, meanders through the Jocassee Gorges, and then dumps into Lake Jocassee.

The third day of our hike ended at Bear Creek—a name that tingled my spine—where we camped and anticipated our walk across the bridge the next day. Not far along the trail on the next morning, we glimpsed the impressive body of water and 115-foot wooden bridge that connected the two riverbanks.

Although a little nervous (I almost drowned when I was nine and have never learned to swim), I wanted my daughter to experience the thrill of walking across the bridge. I knew thousands of hikers had crossed it, so, surely it was stable although a little swingy. If it collapsed; I'd be helpless. I



Chrissy and Martin Wiles trek the Foothills Trail in the Carolinas.



Yellow trillium dot the springtime landscape.

couldn't even swim *without* a 50-pound pack much less with one. And although my daughter could swim, she would sink to

the bottom with 35 pounds on her back, and there was no way she could save dear old Dad.

What gave us further pause

was noticing on the other side about a hundred steps ascended the next mountain, which we would have to climb with our heavy packs. But that wasn't the most disturbing sight. A large pine tree had fallen across the steps inhibiting our way up the mountain. No other path existed to get where we needed to go. We couldn't turn back; we had to find a way around the tree as my mind pondered how we would surmount such an unexpected obstacle.

As we crossed the bridge, we marveled over the skills of those who had constructed it and felt thankful that we did not have to swim or boat across the river. Since I'm writing this, you know we made it across the bridge without it collapsing and managed to maneuver around the tree that blocked the steps. Without her pack on, my daughter was small enough to crawl under the tree. I, on the other hand, had to bear



hug the tree and shimmy over it while donning my 50-pound pack. Luckily, I didn't slide down the tree into the forest below.

Despite the obstacles, we knew the other side of the river was attainable, just as Jesus' disciples knew the other side of the Sea of Galilee could be reached. "One day Jesus said to his disciples, 'Let's cross to the other side of the lake'" (Luke 8:22, NLT). No doubt they had visited there before, so, when Jesus suggested they cross over, they hopped aboard and headed for the other shore. Jesus napped, and a fierce storm arose. Fearing the storm would swamp the boat and drown them, they woke Jesus. Although He calmed the storm, they still may have feared they wouldn't reach the other side. If the Son of God who controls nature, as they observed, rode in the boat with them, and said they were going to the other side, then why did they ever doubt they'd make it?

Trials and life's storms have a way of distorting our perception and expectations. They bring fear, doubt, and worry—all of which can cloud our vision and keep us from believing the other side even exists. We saw the other side of the river but feared getting there. When Jesus stilled the waves, the disciples' perspective returned. Perhaps for the first time, they believed nothing was beyond His control.

But on that bridge, my perspective became clouded while worrying how I would get beyond what nature had placed in our path. Through various life storms,



Martin Wiles

A fallen tree presents a major obstacle on the trail.

I've learned what the disciples did, but I tend to forget. So, God keeps sending trials to remind me the other side exists and that He will take me there regardless of the circumstances of the trip. Seemingly insurmountable challenges arise when we can't see through the storm to the other side. This is when we must do what Paul said, "For we live by faith, and not by sight" (2 Corinthians 5:7, NIV).

Taking a challenging backpacking trip in an area that may pose some risks is a good way to remember that we walk by faith, not by sight. Such adventures also provide a good reminder that God

knows what's on the other side of our life's trials and storms. He is faithful and promises to carry us through. **C**

Martin Wiles writes from Greenwood, South Carolina, where he is an author, pastor, English teacher, and editor who enjoys exploring the wonders of Creation and sharing devotional thoughts and life lessons in his books and several publications.



**Help
Students
Embrace
Nature
with**



\$15 Worth of FREEbies



Get them **HERE**
with the camera on your
cell phone!

INCLUDES:

- A FREE CREATION ILLUSTRATED DIGITAL BACK ISSUE (\$2.99 value)
- A FREE NATURE UNIT STUDY (\$9.95 value)
- A FREE CREATION CHARACTER-BUILDING LESSON (\$1.99 value)
- A FREE DIGITAL NEWSLETTER WITH UPLIFTING DEVOTIONALS, NATURE ACTIVITIES, WHOLESOME RECIPES, AND SPECIAL OFFERS!

Simply LOGON To:
www.CreationIllustrated.com
and Click on FREEbies



Renae Smith

Cascading pinks form an aromatic arbor of delight.

disease among

I didn't intend to acquire a new hobby; I wanted only a place to be outdoors in God's creation. Nor do I especially enjoy growing things (children excepted); I've always seen gardening as one more demand on my time. Discovering that growing a garden requires a certain amount of knowledge, I began to learn and eventually enjoy my new hobby.

Today a good variety of flowers flourish from my efforts, but the most glorious and closest to perfection remains the *flora par excellence*—the magnificent rose. Its diverse array of blossoms unfurl into exquisite patterns, hues, and aromas to enrich the soul. With more than three hundred species among modern garden roses, wild roses, and old garden roses plus thousands of cultivars and hybrids, the variety can appear overwhelming, but even a single, healthy rose can bring joy and arouse adoration toward its Creator. Ironically, this most elegant of all blooms that appears as royalty in any garden is also most susceptible to a particularly devastating disease known as *black spots*—evidence that the ravages of sin defile the most

g a r d e n s f r o m e d e n



Black spots can ravage a rose garden with disease.

the roses

delicate aspects of Creation. “We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time” (Romans 8:22, NIV).

As I learned about this disease, I was struck by the comparison between black spots on the rose and sin in my own life. First, while the rose is the crowning jewel of the garden, we are His crowning jewels of creation—the *creature par excellence* made in His image. Both jewels now are marred by the Fall in His original garden.

Second, within the rose the degree of fragrance and the vulnerability to black spots exits in the same gene. Likewise, it seems that the more we exude the aroma of Christ’s character, the greater threat we are to the enemy that hurls more attacks and temptations our way. Job’s story of suffering and loss illustrates this point.

Third, black spots on rose leaves begin with moisture. While moisture provides good and necessary support for the rosebush, too much moisture and not enough light allows

b y r e n e e j o y j a n z e n



Pruning off the sin-ridden branches is the only option.

something good to become destructive. God gives me so many good and necessary and delightful things that He intends me to use for provisions and blessings. Yet, my overuse or misuse of these blessings corrupts them into vices and destructive forces in my life. Food allows for provision and enjoyment; overindulgence of food becomes gluttonous harm. Provisions can become a source of greed. Personal strengths and talents can form a basis for pride. Godly unions of couples can get corrupted into lust and selfishness.

Fourth, black spots often begin on a leaf hidden from the light, and the blemishes spread quickly to other leaves on the same stem, then overtake the leaves on nearby stems, and eventually dominate the entire bush. The once beautiful rosebush is now covered in disease. From there, black spots can epidemically spread to the other bushes in the garden. In the same way, sin often begins in dark and hidden places away from the light of God and the watch-care of others. It can then spread quickly throughout our souls until it dominates our being and taints our relationship with God and with loved ones. First Corinthians 15:33 warns, "Do not be misled: 'Bad company corrupts good character'" (NIV).

To illustrate the point, let's replace the words *black spots* with the word *sin*. Late last summer I became busy with life. There were travel plans, and I was too busy coming and going to stop and regularly examine my rose bushes for *sin*. Creeping in almost imperceptibly, the sin attacked the most fragrant and fruitful rosebush. In a breathtakingly short time, the disease grew until its presence could not be ignored. But there were children to get off to school, and the pace of many daily activities increased. Within a few weeks the sin had spread to other rosebushes, but dealing with this epidemic of sin seemed overwhelming. I secretly thought if I ignored the sin, it might magically go away before next spring, but the Bible warns against neglect and laziness. So, when spring came the sin returned with a vengeance. I knew I had to



Renee Joy Janzen

The author's rose garden flourishes with prudent care.

deal with it, or my rosebushes would die.

Dealing with the sin meant daily pruning. Every affected leaf had to be removed. Sometimes this meant cutting off whole branches. My shears seemed to be mercilessly cutting away the sin, yet to save the bush my hacking actually came from a heart of mercy aimed at rescuing the sin-ridden plant. It required a tremendous amount of discipline, commitment, prayer, and guidance from God to get rid of the sin. Just when I thought a bush was finally free from the cancer of sin, another sin would appear. One particular bush (the one that originally developed the sin) got stripped nearly bare. It appeared far from glorious or perfect and hardly recognizable as a rosebush. I was not at all sure it would survive the pruning, but I was certain it would not survive if I left the sin to stay and fester further.

Just as God bestows healing and restoration upon the repentant sinner who is willing to be pruned of the sin in his life, the Creator graciously bestowed favor upon this bush. He promises in 1 John 1:9, "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

Fortunately the weather that spring was perfectly temperate. There had been just enough moisture and plenty of sunlight for the roses to thrive. Recently, as I went outdoors to be surrounded by His creation in my garden, I marveled at a dozen perfectly glorious red roses on the once-barren, sick bush. I began to see something more than just a rosebush; I saw restoration and hope. I embraced a gift to me from the Lover of my soul that showed the future is bright! **C**

Renee Joy Janzen writes from Tulsa, Oklahoma, where she performs many roles in her life including lawyer, teacher, mother of four, and homeschool parent. She finds time to write as she travels the country enjoying what the Creator has made.

Genesis Cuisine

Outstanding

Oats

*"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."*

"And you shall eat the herb of the field."

—Genesis 1:29, 3:18

Recipes by Jennifer and Tom Ish. Photos by Melissa Ish



Swiss Muesli Parfaits

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 C. rolled oats | 1/2 C. dried dates, apricots, raisins, and/or figs, chopped |
| 2 apples, grated | 1/2 C. almonds, walnuts, and/or pecans, chopped |
| 1 C. oat milk | Non-dairy, fruit-flavored yogurt |
| 1/2 C. vanilla oat yogurt | Fresh berries |
| 1 lemon, juiced | Nondairy whipped topping |
| 1 Tb. honey | |
| 2 Tb. pumpkin, sunflower, and/or sesame seeds | |

Place oats in a med. bowl and stir in grated apples, lemon juice, oat milk, and vanilla yogurt. Cover and refrigerate overnight. Before serving in the morning, add honey, dried fruit, seeds, and nuts. Mix well and layer muesli, fruit yogurt, and fresh berries into a parfait glass. Top each parfait with more berries and nondairy whipped topping.



Deluxe Oat Patties

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1/3 C. oat flour (fine blended oats) | 1/2 C. pecans, chopped fine |
| 2 tsp. olive oil | 1 pkg. onion soup mix |
| 1 1/2 C. oat milk | 1/2 C. lentils, cooked |
| 1 C. mushrooms, chopped | 2 Tb. flax meal added to 4 Tb. water |
| 1 Tb. food yeast | 1/2 onion, chopped |
| 1 Tb. liquid aminos/Tamari | 1/4 C. oil |
| 3 C. rolled oats | |

Place oat flour in skillet with a small amount of oil and stir to brown the flour and make a roux. Slowly stir in oat milk to make a thick gravy. Add chopped mushrooms, food yeast, and liquid aminos to the gravy. (Double this gravy part of the recipe for a casserole with the fried patties covered in gravy; bake to heat through.) Place rolled oats in a large bowl and add ground nuts, onion soup mix, cooked lentils, flax meal, chopped onion, oil, and oat-mushroom gravy. Mix well, form into patties, and fry in a skillet with a dash of oil to brown both sides. Enjoy as a burger sandwich, in a casserole covered with gravy, or freeze for later use.



Rainbow Carrot Oat Cake

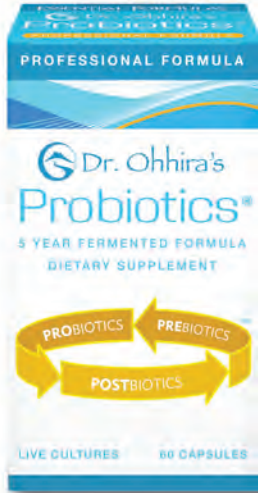
- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 2 C. oat flour (fine blended oats) | 3 Tb. flax meal added to 6 Tb. water |
| 2 C. organic flour of choice | 1 C. applesauce and 1/3 C. oil |
| 3/4 C. walnuts, chopped | 1 tsp. vanilla flavoring |
| 1 1/2 tsp. baking soda | 1/4 C. honey or maple syrup |
| 1 1/2 tsp. baking powder | Cream Cheese Frosting: |
| 1/4 tsp. salt | 8 oz. tub of vegan cream cheese |
| 1 C. sugar of choice (coconut, etc.) | 2 Tb. vegan margarine |
| 1 tsp. ea. cinnamon and turmeric | 1 tsp. vanilla flavoring |
| 1/2 tsp. ea. coriander and allspice | 2 Tb. powder sugar |
| 2 C. grated rainbow carrots | 2 Tb. oat milk |

In a large bowl mix dry ingredients. Mix in the wet ingredients, and pour into a bundt or cake pans. Bake at 350 F. for approx. 50 min. until toothpick is clear. **Frosting:** place cream cheese and margarine in a bowl and mix until smooth with electric mixer; then beat in vanilla, powder sugar, and milk. Spread on cake; garnish with grated rainbow carrots.

10% OFF any order of 2 or more boxes with Coupon Code: CREATION10

Dr. Ohhira's Probiotics.com

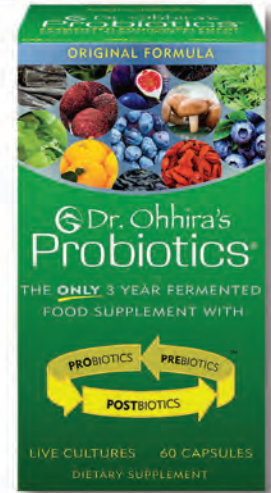
Formulated by Award-Winning Microbiologist, Dr. Iichiroh Ohhira, Ph.D



- **PREbiotics** - fermented vegetables and mushrooms that nourish the probiotics*
- **PRObiotics** - friendly bacteria that help you digest food and support immune system response*
- **POSTbiotics** - support digestive function and whole health*

Call (800) 605-5032

10% OFF any order of 2 or more boxes with Coupon Code: CREATION10



CLICK ADS to ORDER

Sprouting With Steve

"You Can Do It!!!"

Learn how through his all-in-one Sprouting Course!

[CLICK HERE](#)
for more info.



Clover
Broccoli
Mung Bean
Alfalfa
Garbanzo
Lentils
Purple Barley

Adzuki
Peas
Winter Rye
Buckwheat Groats
Sunflower
Chia
Red Amaranth

Enjoy healthful benefits for the whole family!

REAL.
SIMPLE.
GOOD.



HFCS



NITRATES



DYE



SOY



NON
GMO



NO
MSG



**Ruth's Gourmet is simply the best
vegetarian comfort food for today's busy family!**

Our recipes are handcrafted with care using only
the best plant-based or other natural ingredients.
Try them once and you'll be hooked.



*"I tasted about 10-15 veggie burgers and as
soon as I tasted Ruth's I made my decision!"*

*We get compliments on our
veggie burgers all the time."*

Richard Kerhin, Managing Partner Pritzlaff Events, LLC dba Aperitivo



Look Up Not Down



We found that the sighting of a spotted owl became the chosen goal and prize of the day! My wife had received an email alert announcing the whereabouts of this magnificent bird. To observe this particular species of owl, especially during the daylight hours, was an unusual and thrilling event.

C H I L D R E N ' S S T O R Y



© Tom & Pat Leeson

So, we loaded up our *bird mobile* with supplies and binoculars and embarked toward our destination—the Placerita Canyon Natural Area located about thirty minutes outside of Los Angeles. Being a holiday weekend, many people took advantage of an extra day off work, and the parking lot appeared nearly full when we arrived.

As we got out of the car, we immediately

met another birder. His smile beamed from ear to ear. He had just taken some remarkable pictures of an enormous adult spotted owl. But that wasn't all he had. As he reviewed the pictures he had taken, he got especially excited about an unexpected surprise. There before our eyes were pictures of a *baby* spotted owl. The fluff of downy feathers on the fledgling spotted owl made it look like one of those little fur-ball

B Y E D W A R D T O O L E Y



hike took us through some wonderful scenery. As we drew closer to the site, I could tell immediately where the spotted owls were perched. A large number of people oohed and ahed as they peered up at a particular tree. A little girl ran up to us bursting with excitement. She could not wait to show us the exact location of the perching birds. More oohing and ahing continued as others arrived, and each hiker was led by our little guide who turned into an informal tour ranger.

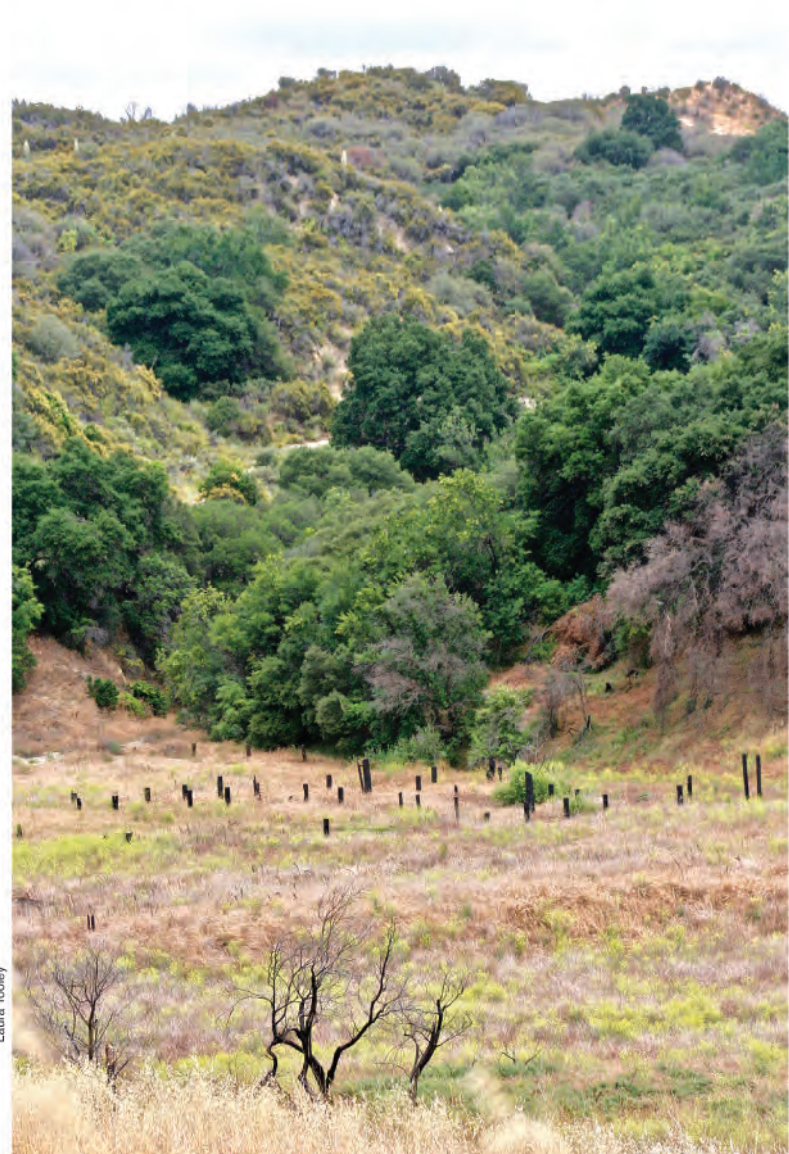
We stayed for quite a while enjoying our Lord's magnificent creation and felt honored to partake of such wonders. "When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained; what is man, that

creatures called *Ewoks* from the Star Wars movies.

We could not wait any longer. We had to get on the trail so we could see these spotted owls with our own eyes. So, we loaded our gear and marched down the trail. Normally when we go on these birding adventures, there are only a handful of hikers, but on this day the path was crowded. As we passed people, I noticed that many of those hiking were families. Moms and dads with their children were taking in the sights and sounds of our Lord's handiwork. Some of the hikers even included their family pet on the outing.

It appeared that they were embracing the lessons found in Job 12:7-10. "But now ask the beasts, and they will teach you; and the birds of the air, and they will tell you; or speak to the earth, and it will teach you. . . . Who among all these does not know that the hand of the Lord has done this, in whose hand is the life of every living thing, and the breath of all mankind?"

It was the best of both worlds. We were able to enjoy animal life that was both tame and wild. The



Laura Tooley

The Placerita Canyon Natural Area

thou art mindful of him? And the son of man, that thou visiteth him?" (Psalm 8: 3, 4, KJV).

More and more families came, and one large family decided to picnic near this spot, of course using quiet voices with which to converse. As I rested against a large pile of rocks, I made a startling observation. The children and even some teen-aged young people on this adventure were not wearing ear buds listening to their cell phones. No one found it necessary to engage with any kind of electronics. I took a quick glance at the large group and did not spot even one person plugged into a digital gadget.

Instead, everyone chose to be engrossed with our great God who created the majestic outdoors. They seemed to be listening to His still, small voice that can be heard through an open heart and mind in the quiet of His creation. (See 1 Kings 19:11–13.)

Why would anyone be looking down when the show was up above and all around us? The psalmist encourages us, "I lift up my eyes to the mountains—where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth" (Psalm 121:1, 2, NIV). Looking up, we can see that "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament shows His handiwork" (Psalms 19:1). After all, the fifth day of the Creation week reveals the importance of birds as part of His creation. "Then God said, ' . . . let birds fly above the earth across the face of the firmament of the heavens.' So God created . . . every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good" (Genesis 1:20, 21).

When it was time to leave, we said our goodbyes to our new birding friends. On our way back to the car, we came in contact with more families on their outdoor adventure. They were strolling on down the trail while taking their sweet time drinking in the scenery. Some families had made their ways to some comfortable boulders where one of the boys threw rocks into a large puddle trying to make an impressive splash. I thought of joining him as I saw he was having so much fun.

When we got back to the car, we greeted more families that were just beginning their afternoon adventure. I could not wait to tell them about what was ahead. We shared smiles, and off they went. Don't you think it's about time to locate those old



Adam Jackson

hiking boots or tennis shoes hidden in the closet and give them a workout? The price for these moments with loved ones in nature is free, but the memories are priceless. Both your children and your soul will be blessed by the adventure as you explore God's creation. "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it" (Proverbs 22:6). **C**

Edward Tooley writes from Glendale, California, where he enjoys getting away from the urban sprawl in order to glean the sights, sounds, and wonders of God's handiwork that are worth sharing with others.

UNRELENTING EFFORT

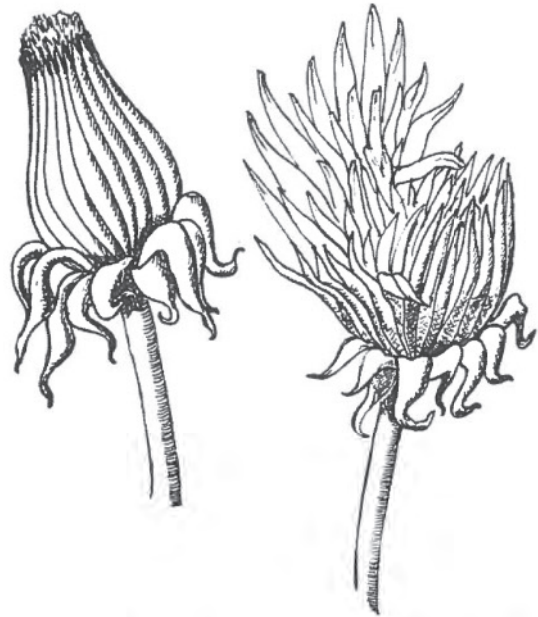


The dandelion's seventh secret of endurance is its untiring effort. This flower is not lazy. It does not sleep away the morning hours. In fact it is one of the very first flowers to blossom in the spring time. Sometimes you can even find it blooming with snow around it, in the northern climates. In this way the dandelion gets a head start on other plants. In warmer climates the dandelion can bloom every month of the year, but in the northern climates they bloom especially first thing in the spring.

Some so called Christians do their sharing only at church or for those who they think good enough. Some share only one day a week, like only on Sabbath. Jesus however thought to apply the gospel to every person he met under every circumstance. He sees what fallen human nature can be when connected with him. When we feel worthless, Jesus sees our value. All summer long, through heat, dust, mud or drought, the dandelion continues daily growth. As the days get longer the need for food and energy becomes more intense. Untiring effort is the basis of all endurance.

"Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and teaching. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they heap up for themselves teachers" 2 Tim. 4:2-3.

Growth means change and change takes effort and requires energy. Through all the summer months the dandelion works. Only when the snow comes does it take a winters nap.



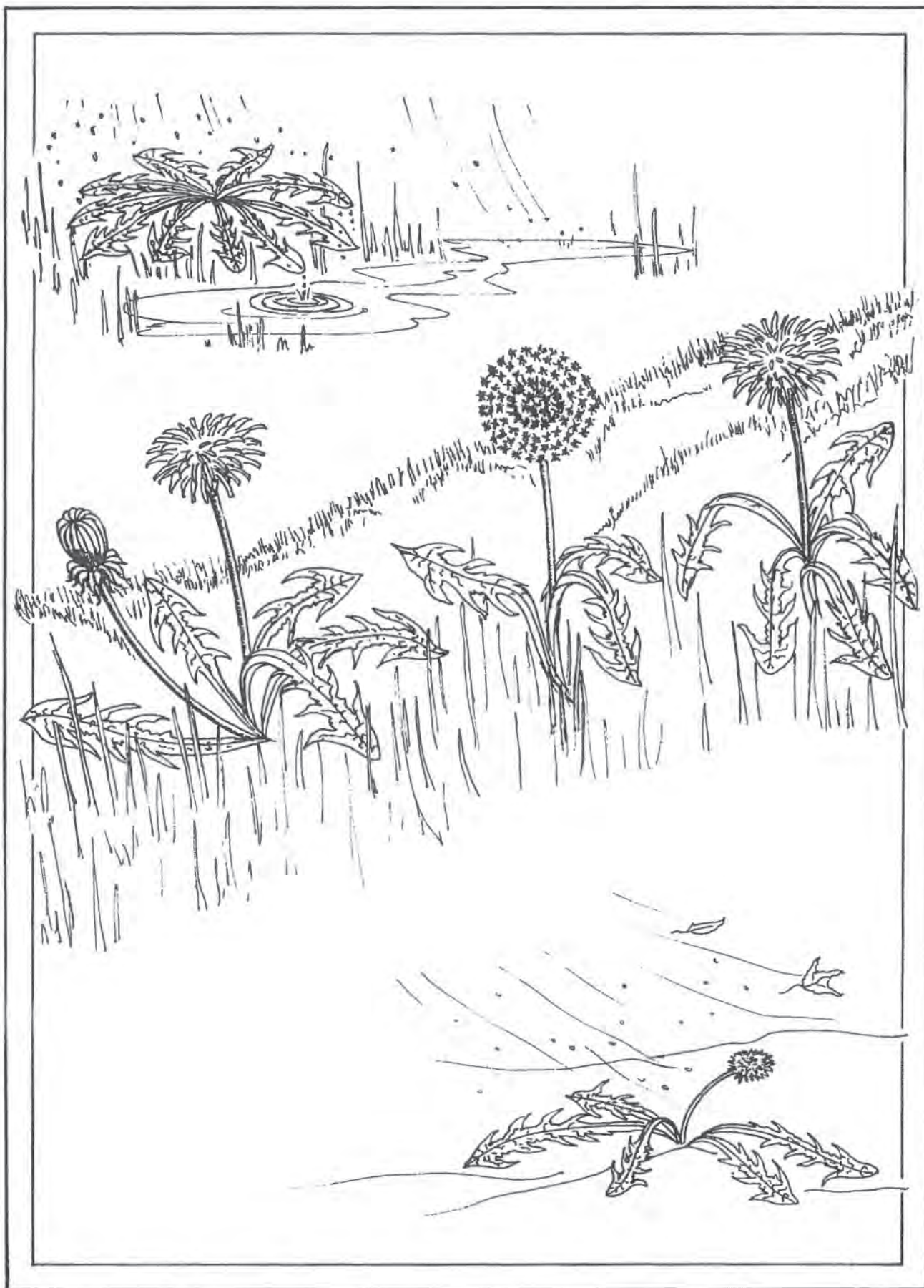
PRACTICAL PROJECT:

When spring comes carefully notice when the first dandelion plant becomes visible. Count the days from when the green leaves appear till the yellow flower appears. Carefully note when it quits blooming. Measure its growth weekly. Are there times in the year when it grows more rapidly or more slowly?



This character-building lesson was excerpted from *The Gospel According to a Dandelion* book by Terry and Jean McComb. To order the complete book and others in their series, go to: www.CreationIllustrated.com.





Spring 2022 Coloring Contest

First Name: _____ Last Initial: _____ Age: _____

(deadline & details on page 60)

City: _____ State/Prov: _____

Creation Illustrated Coloring Contest



First Place, ages 6–11

Karissa W., age 10, of China Grove, North Carolina



Winners From the Winter 2022 Edition Character-Building Lesson



First Place, ages 12–18

*Kaitlynn W., age 15,
of China Grove, North Carolina*

First Place, ages 19+

Mickey W., age 66, of Saint Cloud, Florida

Here's how to enter the **Creation Illustrated Coloring Contest for ALL Ages!** Color in the picture on the previous page from the Character-Building Lesson. You can even add other creatures, clouds, sky, etc. Then scan or photograph your work (maximum one per quarter) and email an attached jpeg to: coloring@creationillustrated.com, Subject Line: Coloring Contest. Each entry **MUST** include your name, age, mailing address, phone number, and email address. The **DEADLINE for spring 2022 entries is May 15, 2022**. Your work will be uploaded to our Web site and Facebook pages where you and others can vote for (Like) any favorites. (No last names or contact information will be included in any postings.) Winners in age groups 6–11, 12–18, 19 and older will be chosen the first week of June from spring-edition pictures, the first week of September from summer-edition pictures, the first week of December from fall-edition pictures, and the first week of March from winter-edition pictures. First-place winners will receive \$25, have their entry posted on our Web site after the next edition is printed, and *may* be published in *Creation Illustrated* as space allows. For more details go to: www.CreationIllustrated.com

Creation Illustrated Photo Contest

Winners From Winter 2022 Submissions



First Place, ages 6–11 (left)

Laura K., age 11, of Millet, Alberta



First Place, ages 12–18 (right)

Daniel O., age 17, of Jenks, Oklahoma



First Place, ages 19+ (left)

Scott B., age 50, of Fridley, Minnesota

Here's how to enter the **Creation Illustrated Photo Contest for ALL Ages!** Get creative with your camera in nature and email an attached jpeg (maximum one per quarter) to: photos@creationillustrated.com, Subject Line: Photo Contest. Each entry **MUST** include your name, age, mailing address, phone number, and email address and one or two sentences on what your photo says about our Creator. The **DEADLINE for spring 2022 entries is May 15, 2022.** Your work will be uploaded to our Web site and Facebook pages where you and others can vote for (Like) any favorites. (No last names or contact information will be included in any postings.) Winners in age groups 6–11, 12 –18, 19 and older will be chosen the first week of June from spring submissions, the first week of September from summer submissions, the first week of December from fall submissions, and the first week of March from winter submissions. First-place winners will receive \$25, have their entry posted on our Web site after the next edition is printed, and *may* be published in *Creation Illustrated* as space allows. For more details go to: www.CreationIllustrated.com



STUDY GUIDE

for *Creation Illustrated*, Spring 2022 Edition, Vol. 29, No. 1

This instructional guide is designed to help readers of all ages integrate practical spiritual lessons available through the study of God's handiwork. Studying nature will help lead individuals to a personal, awe-inspiring relationship with Jesus Christ, the Author of Creation.

I. Re-Creation and Restoration Outdoors—“Olympic National Park” story, pages 6–13

1. How many rain forests are located in Washington State? What makes Hoh unique? p. 8
2. What does the word *cathedral* come from? What does it mean? p. 8
3. List some of the creatures found in the Olympic National Park. p. 9
4. How much rainfall does the Hoh rain forest receive annually? p. 9, 11
5. What are the two prevalent trees growing in the rain forest? Explain what covers them and what *epiphyte* means. How does it get its nutrients? p. 10

II. Creatures Near and Dear to Us—“Splitting Hares” story, pages 14–21

1. How high and how far can rabbits jump? What besides hearing do their large ears help regulate? p. 17
2. List some of the differences between rabbits and hares. How many species of hares are there? How many different domesticated rabbit breeds are there? p. 17
3. What are the terms used for a young hare bunny and a young rabbit bunny? p. 17
4. Explain how rabbits chew their cud according to what the Bible describes in Leviticus 11:6 and Deuteronomy 14:7. How is this different from cows and goats? p. 18
5. Rabbits remind us of what important truth? p. 21

III. Creation Up Close—“Sensational Succulents” story, pages 22–27

1. What is the size of the smallest succulent, and what is unique about how it survives? p. 22
2. What is the name of the largest succulent, and what is the size and age of the largest ones? p. 23
3. How many different known species of succulents are there? What is the common characteristic of all these succulents? p. 24
4. True or False. All cacti are succulents, but not all succulents are cacti. How many Cactaceae species are there? p. 25
5. List some succulents that are edible and are used for food as well as medicinal properties. p. 27

IV. The Creation Week—“Creation Day 1—Light” story, pages 28–37

1. List some other sources and types of light that are different from the sun. p. 29
2. How many times is light referred to as divine nature in the Bible? What is God telling us about Himself by using the word *light*? pp. 29, 30
3. List the New Testament verses that endorse the creation of light as the divine nature of God. p. 30
4. What does the Judeo-Christian definition of light rest upon? p. 30
5. List three ways light aids you in your spiritual walk. pp. 34–36

Springtime Family Fun Activities

Most everyone is eager to get outdoors in the springtime. Some refer to this as “spring fever.” Gardening is a great spring activity for the whole family, and everyone can be involved in deciding what flowers or vegetables to plant. But in colder regions planting outdoors can be delayed; so starting to plant seeds to start seedlings indoors can allow everyone to help get things ready to plant outdoors.

One special type of garden that some people don’t consider is a succulent garden! This type of garden can be very unique and can last for many years indoors, which means you can do it year round! Here are some suggestions to help you get started.

First, each family member will need to choose a container in which to plant their selected succulents. Make sure the containers work well with where you plan to keep your succulent garden—a windowsill, kitchen counter, bedroom dresser, desktop, etc. Shopping together at a thrift store may be a fun part of the process in finding some unique containers like old teacups, tea pots, pottery bowls, or even small fish tanks or terrariums.

Then plan a family outing to a local nursery to pick out and buy any supplies you don’t have on hand. To make healthy succulent planters, the key is to layer the soil. Here is a list of items to look for: succulent potting mix, sand, sphagnum moss, activated charcoal, and top pebble dressing.

Enjoy being creative as you arrange your succulents to help bring this special part of God’s creation and beauty into your home. Other benefits to growing succulents include improving the air and humidity in your home. Bringing nature close to us also has mental-health benefits by decreasing anxiety, improving focus, and enhancing one’s memory. Happy gardening!



A	G	W	U	E	B	Q	E	I	W	S	E
V	N	D	I	R	A	G	R	T	E	L	S
B	B	A	J	A	B	T	I	C	H	U	R
E	W	R	N	R	O	H	P	A	C	G	E
W	T	K	B	A	A	G	I	C	X	H	T
D	S	N	V	I	B	I	U	Z	O	I	A
S	E	E	E	N	R	L	Q	H	B	K	W
A	R	S	W	E	E	I	A	B	N	E	Q
Q	O	S	O	N	R	A	A	K	I	G	C
O	F	L	T	R	A	R	E	U	R	A	B
L	A	R	D	E	H	T	A	C	E	A	A
X	E	Y	L	W	O	E	S	V	W	P	P

WORD SEARCH PUZZLE

The puzzle at the left contains words that are associated with this edition of *Creation Illustrated*. Simply find the words listed below and circle them. They can be spelled backward, forward, up, down, or diagonally. When you are finished, try to find the story or other part of the magazine from which each word came.

- | | |
|--------------|---------------|
| 1. ALOE | 11. HOH |
| 2. BANANA | 12. LIGHT |
| 3. BAOBAB | 13. PARK |
| 4. CACTI | 14. RABBIT |
| 5. CATHEDRAL | 15. RAIN |
| 6. CHEW | 16. ROSE |
| 7. DARKNESS | 17. SLUG |
| 8. FOREST | 18. SUCCULENT |
| 9. HARE | 19. TRAIL |
| 10. HIKE | 20. WATERS |

101 of the Greatest Adventure Stories Ever Told



Start your own G. A. Henty Library Today!

Now for a limited time: \$18 for Hardcover and \$12 for Softcover. Special pricing on Sets.

For more than a century the G.A. Henty adventure stories have been beloved by boys and girls all over the world for their fast moving and engaging narratives of great times in history. Each Henty hero exemplifies the traditional virtues of hard work, courage, and high personal honor.

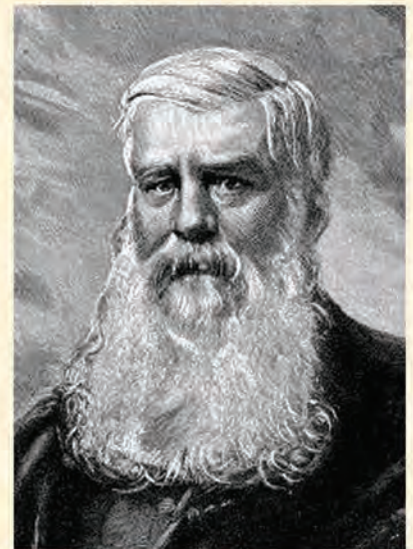
And, each hero is at the center of fast-moving adventures that capture the reader's interest and will not let go - adventures that take place during great historical events. Through the eyes of the hero, readers experience the horrors and trials of the French Revolution, life in Colonial Australia, and the Fall of Jerusalem. These books have made history come alive for generations of children, and provided them examples of the highest Christian character.

Henty knew his subject. First as a British soldier in the Crimean War, and later as a war correspondent covering campaigns throughout the British Empire, Henty experienced first hand many of the events he describes. For this reason Henty's descriptions of places and events have an element of realism to them which makes them stand out from other historical fiction. Many of the descriptions are of places that Henty visited or of events that he actually witnessed.

All of Mr. Henty's books are published by Robinson Books in beautifully bound hard and soft cover editions. These preserve the typesetting and formatting of the Henty masterpieces that were printed in Scotland

over a century ago. Profusely illustrated with the original woodcut and lithograph illustrations, a set of our heirloom quality Henty editions is an investment that will be a family treasure for generations to come.

Complete Hardcover Special!
All 101 G.A. Henty books for \$1199
(40% off the individual book price)



As special correspondent for the *Standard Paper* during the reign of Queen Victoria, G. A. Henty not only wrote about history - he lived it. Many of his wonderful stories are centered around great historical events that he personally witnessed.

Creation Illustrated readers get Free Shipping on all orders. Enter the promo code CREATION during checkout



www.RobinsonBooks.com

Contact us: Robinson Books
P.O. Box 1250
Cave Junction, OR 97523
(541) 499-8914
matthew@robinsonbooks.com

**Powerful
Educational
Tools for
Homeschooling,
Bible Study Groups,
Classrooms, and
Churches!**

*Thy Way, O God,
is in the Sanctuary.*
Songs for Children
Sung by Ruth & Les Andrieux,
and the Ruth Andrieux Children's Choir.

This USB flash drive has 45 Bible verse songs to
memorize- on the subject of the Sanctuary.




This USB Flash Drive Contains:

1. Children singing the 46 songs—Audio
2. Children singing the 46 song— Visual
3. Instrumentals for 45 of the songs to use for accompaniment or as an educational aid.
4. A "Word Only Songbook" that may be copied and used as an educational aid.

To purchase or listen to samples of the music go to:
<https://www.andrieuxhousemusic.com/thyway.html>
Or call (707) 965-3081, Or email ruth.andrieux@att.net

CLICK ON ADS – Go Right to WEBSITES FOR INFO. & ORDERS!

**Watch
8 FREE
Lessons**
@
**PianoForLife
.com**




Affordable Piano Instruction

- IDEAL Lifetime Foundation
- Perfect for all ages
- For all playing levels: beginners through advanced

Read Reviews at these sites:

- Timberdoodle • Sonlight
- Rainbow Resource • CBD

www.PianoForLife.com
(888) 742-6653
Email Questions to: info@pianoforlife.com

**Christ-Centered
LIVE
Online
Science
Classes**



**Taught by former college professor
and homeschool dad, Greg Landry**

Superior Instruction that leaves out the guesswork in:

- Biology • Chemistry • Physics • Anatomy & Physiology •

What others say:
"Your orientation toward training students to be researchers and critical thinkers is just what our girls needed. It has also spilled over into how they approach history and literature ..." – Carol

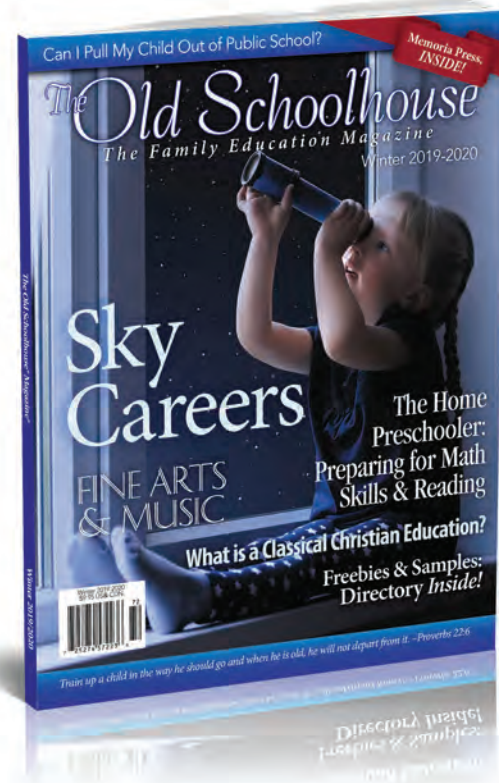
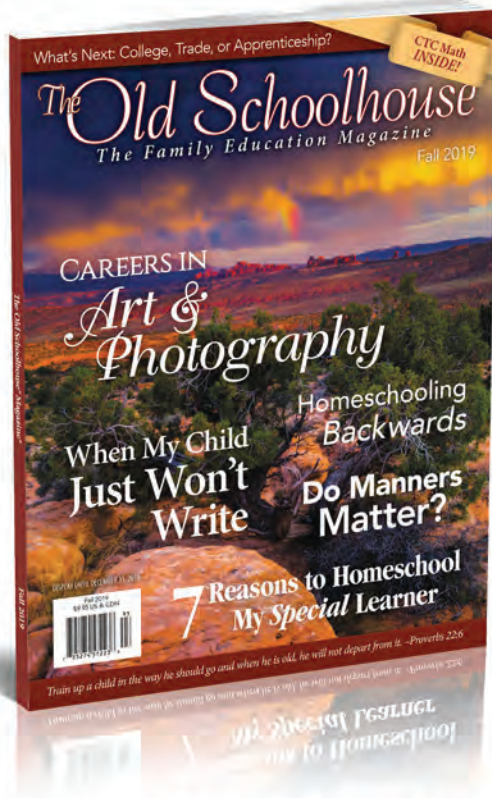
Learn More at:
CollegePrepScience.com

Christian Children Don't Belong in Public Schools.

"A pupil is not above his teacher; but everyone, after he has been fully trained, will be like his teacher."

Luke 6:40

www.TryHomeschooling.com



The Old Schoolhouse®
The Family Education Magazine

IF YOU WERE ME AND LIVED IN...
CULTURE SERIES



BE AN ARMCHAIR TRAVELER
Fact-filled and entertaining in this popular and award-winning series.

CULTURE, TRADITIONS, FOOD
Celebrate a favorite holiday and discover popular names for both boys and girls.


AND WHAT YOU MIGHT DO FOR FUN
Rich history and colorful activities take the reader on a globe-trotting adventure.

22 COUNTRIES IN THE SERIES

amazon

GREEK 'N' STUFF

My kids love Greek.
Even my two year old walks around the house singing her Greek alphabet.
Elizabeth



Kid-friendly curriculum works at your own pace!


FREE catalog available

www.greeknstuff.com

CLICK ON AD – Go Right to WEBSITE !

Calming Harp
Music that Quiets the Soul
from the Psalms of David

Steve Rees, Harpist




Harp Music benefits:
Blood pressure and heart health
Surgical recovery
Sleep and relaxation
Depression
Anxiety
Calming
Documented "Mozart" effect

*These harp CD's are my original compositions from the Psalms of David using a Hebrew letter to musical note relationship recorded in the musical frequency of 528Hz.
Order your CD's or MP3's today at: www.calmingharp.com
and begin enjoying this beautifully calming music today!*

Featured CD's:
*Psalms of Aliyah
Keys of David
Living Water*

Free listening samples at: calmingharp.com

Following God's Clear Commands in an Age of Confusion



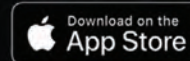
CRYSTAL VISION
Reflections on Following God's Clear Commands in an Age of Confusion
Brian M. Heaphy

Brian Heaphy, a former Navy SEAL Officer, now serves as a marksman with words and photos for the glory of God while drawing upon his subsistence lifestyle in Alaska's remote interior. Scripture-driven truths and insights in his new book *Crystal Vision* will help guide and encourage readers through life's vital issues and questions. A perfect gift, devotional, group study tool . . .

Print - \$14.95 eBook - \$12.95 Learn more at: BrianHeaphy.com

Social Media That Draws Us Together

Many people struggle with trusting God's love and our love for each other. iPray is a prayer app that restores confidence in God's love for us and between us by helping us be more faithful in our prayers and communities of prayer.



iPray.me

FEEL CLOSER TO GOD UNDERWATER



Make underwater exploration a worshipful experience with this online course

ENROLL NOW

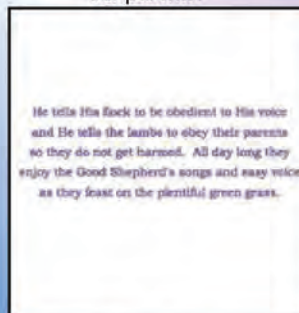
REEF
MINISTRIES



First 2 in a Series of 12 Character-building Children's Books !

Book 1: Teaches to obey our parents.

Book 2: Teaches that being different is okay. (coming soon)



"The kids are still talking about you and the book... even asking what Pure in Heart will do next on his journey..." —Cindy from live book reading by the Author

**ORDER AT: www.FishCreekProductions.com
OR AT: Amazon.com**

*Powerful
Educational
Tools for
Homeschooling,
Bible Study Groups,
Classrooms, and
Churches!*

BCE Academy

Your Success is our Goal!

A fully accredited homeschool program

Basic Christian Education offers:

- Full-service homeschool curriculum
- Biblical based, character building
- Accredited
- Full record keeping
- Official transcripts
- FREE Diagnostic Testing & Placement with enrollment (\$50 value)



Call for personal assistance:

866-567-2446

Open enrollment with BCE Academy, or purchase individual curriculum at your convenience.

Download our free catalog



**BASIC CHRISTIAN
EDUCATION
& BCE ACADEMY**

www.BasicChristianEducation.com

CLICK ON ADS – Go Right to WEBSITES FOR INFO. & ORDERS!



Back Issue Blowout!

"Every issue is a keepsake!"

As Low As \$3.99 ea. (+S/H) SAVE 20%

VISIT: CreationIllustrated.com

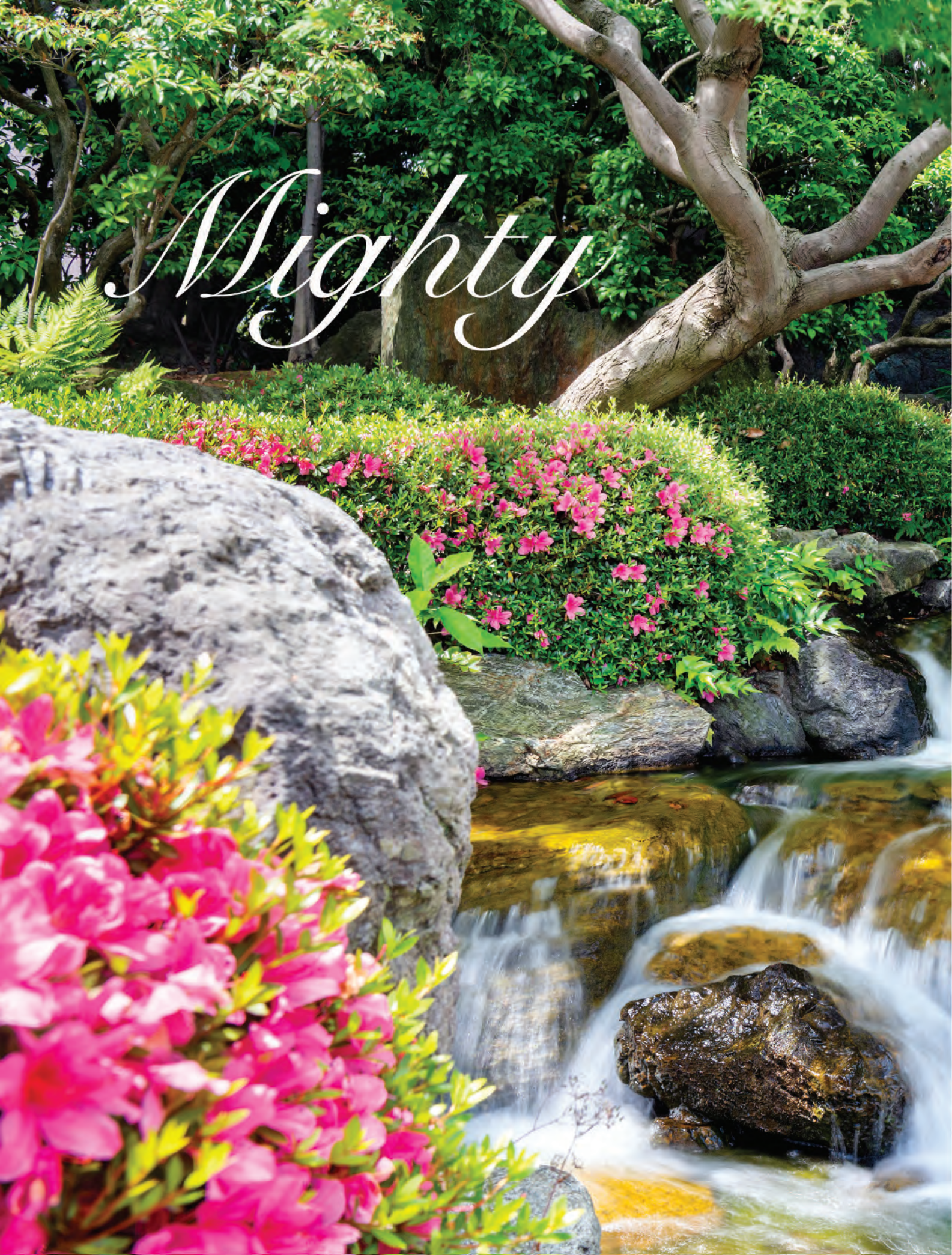
FOR DETAILS & BUNDLES

(Special Issues & Nearly Sold Out Prices Vary.)

OR CALL (800) 360-2732



Mighty





Tree

Lord, let me be
a mighty tree,
rooted, grounded, stayed in love
while flowers flourish up above.

And let my branches be adorned
with fruit that's only Spirit-born,
fed by waters sweet, divine,
Your holy Word in heart and mind.

So in Your beauty I will grow,
and all my life Your light will show.

— Zachary Sigmon



***“Therefore, if anyone
is in Christ, he is a new
creation; old things have passed
away; behold, all things have
become new.”***

– 2 Corinthians 5:17

Wayne Easley

Creation

I L L U S T R A T E D

YOUR GETAWAY . . .

IN NATURE, IN SCRIPTURE, AND IN LIVING

www.creationillustrated.com • (800) 360-2732