

Let it Shine!

Based on Genesis Ch 1& 2

Imagine you are part of the Creation Story. Close your eyes.

Question - What do you see?

Answer –Nothing – total darkness – complete void – an empty black space.

Close your eyes again. Now open them again.

This time when you open them you can see clear sky dominated by the light of the moon surrounded by hundreds and thousands of twinkling stars alternating with the golden sunshine filling the world with its yellow, orange and red rays.

Have you ever wondered if there was a difference between the light created on the first day and that created on the fourth day of this amazing story? How were plants and vegetation were created before the sun? We think of all light coming from the sun. There are, however, many sources of light. Scientists tell us short wave light rays include ultraviolet light and x rays and long wave light rays include infrared light and radio waves. Light can be produced by friction, by fire or by chemical or nuclear reactions so God had many options from which to accomplish his purpose.

I think that this 'light' recorded in Genesis v 3& 4 is symbolic of God's truth – God's word that, when accepted by individuals, shines through their words and actions. God who transformed the earth, filling it with light and life can transform us. We can shine like the stars. That power present at the beginning can work in our lives. Perhaps the darkness is also symbolic and if so I am reminded of the candles in last months paper – 'The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has never put it out'.

We read that after each 'creation' God was pleased with what he saw. Everything was good. So we ask the question 'Is God pleased with what he sees today?' Many would answer 'no' – both spiritually and physically. As Christians our aim is to disprove that negative answer and show that God's light can constantly be seen. Surely our actions should show that we care for God's world.

Through the media environmental issues are highlighted almost daily, ranging from plastic found in our oceans, rubbish and fly-tipping on our road sides, to deforestation in countries throughout the world. At home we are constantly being encouraged to recycle, recycle, and recycle. God was ahead of the game, as we may expect, especially if this quote is true

'GOD RECYCLES - HE MADE YOU OUT OF DUST!' Genesis Ch 2 v 7

How can we not follow his example?

For Discussion:

1. Do you accept the Creation Story as factual or do you think it is symbolic?
2. How can we as individuals, as a church and as members of our local communities help with environmental issues?
3. Do we feel that we can have any influence on global issues?