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Creation Speaks: Listening to God’s Voice in Nature

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KEY VERSE

“Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds!” – Luke 12:24

READINGS

Psalm 19

Today the Church observes Environment Sunday, a day when we are reminded that creation itself is not silent. The trees, rivers, birds, mountains, stars, and even the wind are proclaiming the glory of God. Nature is not merely scenery for human enjoyment; it is God’s living testimony. The Bible repeatedly teaches that creation speaks, teaches, praises, and reveals the wisdom and majesty of the Creator. We live in a world where many people are surrounded by noise but deprived of true listening. Cities are full of sounds, but hearts are empty of God’s voice. Human beings have become masters of technology, yet strangers to the language of creation. We look at the sky but fail to see glory. We hear birds sing but fail to hear praise. We walk on the earth but forget it is holy ground created by God. Environment Sunday calls us to return to spiritual listening. It invites us to rediscover the theology of creation. The Bible does not separate spirituality from creation care. The same God who redeemed humanity through Christ is the God who created the heavens and the earth. Therefore, caring for creation is not merely an environmental duty; it is a spiritual responsibility. Today’s readings beautifully remind us that creation speaks in at least four powerful ways.

Creation Speaks of God’s Wisdom and Power (Job 12:7-12)

Job says: “Ask the animals, and they will teach you; the birds of the air, and they will tell you.” What a remarkable statement! Job invites human beings to become students of creation. The animals, birds, fish, and earth itself become teachers. Sometimes we think wisdom belongs only to universities, books, and scholars. But Job reminds us that God has written lessons everywhere in creation.

A tiny ant teaches diligence.

A flowing river teaches perseverance.

A tree teaches patience and stability.

The changing seasons teach hope and renewal.

Nature is a classroom of divine wisdom. The tragedy of modern humanity is that we often behave as though creation exists only for consumption. Forests become timber, rivers become drainage channels, mountains become mining zones, and animals become commodities. But the Bible teaches that creation has dignity because it belongs to God. In Job’s time, people closely observed nature. Shepherds watched the skies. Farmers understood the rhythms of the soil. Fishermen learned from

the waters. Through these experiences they discovered God’s wisdom. Today many children know more about mobile phones than about trees. Many people recognize company logos more quickly than birds or flowers. We are losing our spiritual connection with creation. There is a famous illustration about Saint Francis of Assisi. He was once seen preaching to birds. People laughed at him. But Francis said, “If human beings refuse to praise God, the birds still will.” He understood that all creation glorifies God in its own way. Theologically, creation is not divine, but it points toward the Divine. Christians do not worship nature, but we respect it because it reveals the Creator. Romans 1 teaches that God’s invisible qualities are seen in creation. The universe becomes a mirror reflecting God’s wisdom and power. When we see the balance of ecosystems, the beauty of flowers, the precision of stars, and the mystery of life, we realize that this world did not emerge by accident. It bears the fingerprints of God. Therefore, Environment Sunday is also a call to humility. Humanity is not the owner of creation; we are stewards. The earth belongs to God.

Creation Speaks of God’s Glory and Truth(Psalm 19)

Psalm 19 begins with those majestic words:“The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of His hands.”Notice the psalmist does not say creation whispers; it declares. Day after day and night after night, creation continuously proclaims God’s glory.

The sunrise is a sermon.

The stars are testimonies.

The oceans are hymns.

The mountains are silent cathedrals of worship.

Even without human language, creation communicates. Psalm 19 says:“There is no speech or language where their voice is not heard.”God’s revelation comes in two ways: through Scripture and through creation. The Bible is God’s written word, while creation is God’s visible word. Both lead us toward worship.Many great spiritual experiences happened in nature. Moses encountered God near a burning bush in the wilderness. Elijah heard the still small voice near the mountain. Jesus often prayed in lonely places, on hillsides, near lakes, and in gardens. Nature became the setting for divine encounters.Unfortunately, modern society often destroys what God created beautiful. Pollution darkens the skies. Rivers become poisoned. Forests disappear. Climate imbalance affects the poor most severely. Environmental destruction is not merely a scientific issue; it is also a moral and spiritual issue.When humanity harms creation irresponsibly, we silence part of creation’s song of praise.There is an old missionary story from India. A missionary once planted trees around a dry village church compound. People questioned why he spent so much energy on trees. Years later, those trees provided shade, fruits, birds’ nests, and water preservation for the whole village. The missionary said, “Preaching the Gospel also means preparing the earth for future generations.”That is a profound truth. Christian mission includes care for God’s world.Psalm 19 also moves from creation to God’s law. The psalmist connects nature with moral responsibility. The God who created the world also calls us to righteous living. Therefore, environmental care cannot be separated from justice, compassion, and holiness.When greed dominates humanity, creation suffers. When selfishness increases, exploitation grows. But when people live according to God’s will, creation flourishes.

Creation Speaks of God’s Care and Provision(Luke 12:24-34)

Jesus says:“Consider the ravens…”What a beautiful invitation! Jesus teaches theology through birds and flowers. He points His disciples toward nature as evidence of God’s care.The ravens neither sow nor reap, yet God feeds them. The lilies neither labour nor spin, yet God clothes them with beauty greater than Solomon’s glory.Jesus is teaching two important truths here.First, God cares for all creation.Second, if God cares for birds and flowers, how much more does He care for human beings.In today’s world, anxiety has become a global epidemic. People worry about money, security, future, career, health, and survival. Jesus addresses anxious hearts by pointing toward creation.

Nature becomes a living sermon against fear.Birds do not store wealth in banks, yet God sustains them. Flowers bloom without anxiety about tomorrow. Jesus is not teaching laziness; He is teaching trust.Many years ago, during a severe famine, a poor Christian family gathered daily for prayer before meals even when food was scarce. One small child asked the father, “Will God provide tomorrow?” The father pointed to a bird sitting on a branch and said, “That bird did not store food for tomorrow, yet God fed it today. The same God is watching us.” The next day unexpected help arrived.

Faith grows when we observe God’s faithfulness in creation.But there is another side to Jesus’ teaching. If God values creation, then Christians must not abuse it. We cannot claim to love the Creator while destroying creation irresponsibly.Environmental care is part of Christian discipleship.Plastic pollution, deforestation, water wastage, reckless industrial exploitation, and destruction of biodiversity are not merely social issues. They reflect spiritual attitudes. Greed destroys both humanity and nature.Jesus also says:“Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”If our treasure is only profit and consumption, creation will suffer. But if our treasure is God’s kingdom, we will learn stewardship, simplicity, gratitude, and care.The theology of creation reminds us that the earth is God’s gift entrusted to humanity. Genesis teaches stewardship, not domination. We are caretakers, not destroyers.

Creation Speaks of God’s Final Restoration(Revelation 22:1-6)

The Bible begins with a garden in Genesis and ends with a river and tree of life in Revelation. This is deeply significant.In Revelation 22, John sees:“the river of the water of life”

and“the tree of life… and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations.”This is a picture of restored creation.Sin damaged not only humanity but also creation itself. Paul says in Romans 8 that creation groans in pain waiting for redemption. Environmental destruction, disasters, suffering, and death remind us that creation is wounded.But God’s final plan is not destruction – it is renewal.Christian hope is not escape from creation but restoration of creation.The New Jerusalem includes rivers, trees, fruit, healing, and light. God does not abandon creation. He renews it.This gives Christians a profound ecological theology. Every act of caring for creation becomes a small participation in God’s coming kingdom.

Planting a tree becomes an act of hope.

Protecting water becomes an act of faith.

Reducing waste becomes an act of stewardship.

Preserving life becomes an act of worship.

One elderly pastor once said, “We may not save the whole world, but we can refuse to help destroy it.” That is Christian responsibility.Environment Sunday reminds us that the Church must become a prophetic voice. We must teach responsible living, sustainable habits, gratitude for creation, and respect for life.Our churches can plant trees, reduce waste, conserve water, teach children to respect nature, and encourage lifestyles of simplicity rather than consumerism. These are not secular activities; they are spiritual acts flowing from biblical faith.

Conclusion

Dear friends, creation is still speaking today.

The birds sing of God’s faithfulness.

The heavens proclaim His glory.

The rivers speak of His life.

The flowers reveal His beauty.

The trees testify to His patience.

But are we listening?

In a noisy world, God still speaks through creation. Environment Sunday is a call to repentance, gratitude, stewardship, and hope.

Let us not become people who exploit creation without reverence. Let us become listeners, caretakers, and worshippers.

May we rediscover the sacredness of the world God created. May our spirituality include care for the earth. And may future generations inherit not a wounded planet, but a world where creation can continue singing the praise of God.

For creation still declares:“The heavens declare the glory of God.”

Closing Prayer

Loving Creator God,We thank You for the beauty of the earth, the gift of life, the wonder of nature, and the glory revealed in creation. Forgive us for the times we have ignored, abused, and destroyed what You lovingly created.Open our ears to hear Your voice in the winds, rivers, birds, mountains, and skies. Teach us to become faithful stewards of this earth and responsible caretakers of Your gifts.Lord Jesus Christ, who taught us through ravens and lilies, remove fear and anxiety from our hearts and help us trust in Your daily provision. Fill us with gratitude instead of greed, simplicity instead of selfishness, and compassion instead of carelessness.Holy Spirit, renew the face of the earth. Heal polluted lands, protect forests and rivers, comfort those suffering from environmental disasters, and guide world leaders toward wisdom and justice.Bless our churches, families, and communities so that we may preserve creation for future generations. May our lives become testimonies of love for bothCreator and creation.We pray this in the precious name of Jesus Christ

our Lord.