

# God's Country

*Paul Hoffman*

*For upper grade students to adults*

**By the word of the Lord the heavens were made. By the breath of his mouth he made the whole army of stars. He gathers the water of the sea into a heap. He puts the depths into storehouses. Let all the earth fear the Lord. Let all the inhabitants of the world revere him. For he said, "Let it be," and it was! He gave a command, and there it stood.**  
Psalm 33:6-9 (EHV)

On several occasions, my family and I had the chance to travel round-trip via car from the Midwest to the Southwest regions of the US. On these journeys, we were blessed to see up close the many varied landscapes and marvel how each one is unique and beautiful in its own way—whether it be the rich farmland of the Midwest, the desert valleys of the southwest, or the majestic mountain peaks of the west. All of these and much more are part of the beautiful world God has created. When we take in the beauty of God's creation, we stand in awe and remark about what we see as "God's Country"—a phrase often used when words cannot describe the breathtaking view, but simply state this may be a small taste of the beauty of heaven.

As we consider how God has blessed us with His creation, we remember that all glory and honor belong to Him, but at other times our sinful nature may lead us to rob God of that glory. We too often fall into the trap of taking glory from God when we fail to see Him as the provider of all good things. Some Christians go as far as rejecting what God says about creation, when they falsely think that God used millions of years of death and suffering to create. Such Christians place their faith in great jeopardy. Atheists completely remove God from creation. Some of them see the beauty of this world and eventually come to realize that there is a creator, but then many still fail to see that their Creator is also their Savior.

For the times we rob God of His glory, we look to our Savior and confess that we have sinned. Forgiven by the grace of our Creator, we can live our lives in appreciation, spreading the wonderful news that the Creator of the world is also the Savior of the world. We can live our lives giving God the glory; faithfully using the blessings He has provided.

The next time you have the opportunity to stand back and ponder God's amazing creation, if you take in a beautiful scenic view or sunset, take time to thank God for the blessings and beauty He gave us through His work of creation. Take the time to witness some of "God's Country" and thank God for it. Tell others about the wonderful and amazing work of our Creator so they too may know the truth and give glory to God.

Prayer:

Dear Heavenly Father, you alone are the sole provider and creator of all that we have and see in this world. Forgive us for the times we take your blessings for granted or take glory away from you. Help us to be faithful stewards and to appreciate the beauty of your creation. In our Savior's name we pray, Amen.

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## Feedback

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## Fossils

*Fossils in the Geologic Column -Problems for Evolution (spring 2018) was one of the best articles I've read on the subject, and in simple enough language that it does not take a scientist to understand it.*

*Rev. Mark Porinsky*