

Good morning! Have you ever thought about the way God shows us things about Himself? Of course, God doesn't reveal everything about Himself to us---our minds couldn't comprehend it! He only reveals what He wants, what is good and right to Him. One of the ways God reveals Himself to us is the created world He's put us in. The very first sentence in the Bible says, "*In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.*" There may be various theories about whether we live on a "young" earth or an "old" earth but the Bible says God made it. Let's consider that as we read this morning's two passages together:

The heavens are telling of the glory of God; and the expanse is declaring the work of His hands. **Psa. 19:1**

For ever since the world was created, people have seen the earth and sky. Through everything God made, they can clearly see his invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature. So they have no excuse for not knowing God. **Romans 1:20**

Have you ever been to Thomas Jefferson's home Monticello in Charlottesville, Virginia? It's a trip worth taking. I especially like the gardens; wonderful flower and vegetable gardens and orchards, planted during Jefferson's day. They are still producing seeds so you can actually buy seeds from Jefferson's gardens to plant at your home; in fact, we have some flowers growing in our gardens that were planted from seeds that came from Monticello. I like to walk through the gardens and consider Jefferson's plan, the way he laid them out. When I see their order and beauty, I never think, "This place must have gotten this way on its own." I think, "How interesting that Thomas Jefferson laid the garden out this way." The layout tells us things about the one who laid it out. I recently heard a man speak about "the glory of creation." When I heard that, it made me think. Creation is glorious! It is amazing in its diversity, its extremes. It's vast---but orderly. After all, science continues to discover intricacies of order that are smaller and smaller. They also continue to find new planets and galaxies and our understanding of our world grows bigger and bigger. We continue to discover new species of animals, new insects, and new bacteria. And yet it isn't chaos; it's organized and orderly. Our two passages today remind us that the created universe in which we live tells everyone about God. Paul says that everyone can look at the earth and the sky and understand something about God's eternal power and divine nature. Today, take some time to look around at the world you live in. Isn't it marvelous? That's because the heavens and earth are speaking to us...they're declaring the glory of God!