SUBJECT:

God Created Wonderful Things BIBLE BASIS:

Lesson Scripture: Ps. 104:1-13

BIBLE TRUTH:

God controls the forces of nature

MEMORY VERSE:

Ps. 104:1

Lesson Aim:

That your students will be encouraged to be thankful and praise God for all of the wonderful things he has created on the earth for us

Introduction

- Is God actually in natural objects and what insurance companies call "acts of God?" Yes or No. God who created is also the God who can destroy. Yet destruction is not His pleasure. Ezek. 18:23, 2Pet 3:9
- He is above all of them and greater than them. This seems obvious to us who believe the Bible and the Genesis account of Creation. It is not so obvious to others. Some people worship and serve the creature more than the Creator. The things that God made, including all of the physical universe and the laws and forces governing them, are great and awesome but should never be confused with Him. Rom. 1:19-20
- According to some superstitions, the wind, lightening, trees, rocks and mountains all take on personality, and have spirits that can be invoked to help one accomplish their desires, regain health, over-come enemies, and prosper. Rom 1:21-25
- According to other pagan religions, the animals have spirits and powers that we can tap into. New Age philosophies believe in energy fields, and forces in the universe. However, Jesus is the only power source in heaven and earth. Matt 28:18, Col. 1:20
- Every object we see should cause us to bless and praise the Lord. His eternal power and Godhead are clearly shown by the things which he hath made. God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. The Lord Jesus, the Son of his love, is the Light of the world. John 1:1-4

Bless The Lord

- Psalm 104:1 Bless the Lord, O my soul. O Lord my God, thou art very great; thou art clothed with honour and majesty.
- When we read this psalms we get the idea of the writer priming his praise pump. The pump in this lesson is the soul of the psalmist. It appears as thou something had happened in the psalmist life that brought on a spiritual drought. He came to the conclusion that he needed to give himself a good talking to. So he blesses the Lord from the depth of his soul.
- In comparison, God has come down to our level to bless us in so many ways. In the garden God came to walk with us, In the manger he came to live with us, on the cross he became sin to died to for us, he rose from the grave to justify us, he ascended to heaven to intercede for us.
- The very great God is also the God who wants a close relationship with us. Its easy to forget one or the other of these two aspects. If we focus on how good God is personally to us, we may forget that he is also the God of creation. If we focus on Gods creative powers, we may forget that He is available to us personally. Both facts are essential to a proper relationship with God. He is not just God the creator of all things but he is Our Father in Heaven. 2Corn 6:17-18

The Light

- [2] Who coverest thyself with light as with a garment: who stretchest out the heavens like a curtain:
- Before their was light, the earth was wrapped in a blanket of pitch black darkness.
- The Gap theory says that the word "was" in Gen. 1:2 should be translated "became." The earth was created perfect in Gen. 1:1. The Bible indicates that God did not create the earth in vain, without form. Isa. 45:18.
- But in Genesis 1:2 the earth is seen as a waste and void. Thus between Genesis 1:1 and Genesis 1:2. Between these two verses something happened. What? What caused the earth to "become a waste and void"? It is usually said that Satan's fall occurred at this time, and his rebellion against God caused a catastrophic judgment to fall upon the earth.. Rev. 12:9, Isa.14:12-15, Eze. 28:11-18, 2Cor. 4:3-4, John 12:31, John 14:30 Matt 4:8-9, Eph. 2:2, Eph. 6:12,
- We find Satan already at work in Gen 3, so that his fall had to take place earlier. This means that the creative activities of God in Gen. 1 are really a restoration of the ruined universe. Gen. 1:3
- The Bible says that God instructed man to "be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth." To replenish means to fill again, to repopulate, not to populate for the first time. Gen 1:28

A Firm Foundation

- [3] Who layeth the beams of his chambers in the waters: who maketh the clouds his chariot: who walketh upon the wings of the wind:
- Remember what the earth was like, raging waters covered the earth. No land rose above the waters; no land was exposed; no land could be seen. The whole earth and its atmosphere was covered with water.
- He has his chambers, his upper rooms. The beams whereof he lays in the waters, the waters that are above the firmament. Amos 9:6
- Though air and water are unstable bodies, yet, by His power, they are as firm in the place assigned them as a chamber is with beams and rafters upon a firm foundation. The Bible says that when the foundations of the earth were laid, "the morning stars [angels] sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy." Job 38:5-7
- An undeveloped and unshaped earth would not be reason for singing a song of joy nor for rejoicing in God's sovereignty, in His supreme intelligence and power. Gen. 1:2
- He uses the visible clouds to represent his mode of transportation which add much to the magnificence of their entries; and riding far above out of the reach of opposition. At any time he will act by uncommon providences in the government of this world. He descended in a cloud to declare the gospel. Mt. 17:5
- His footing is upon the wings of the wind. Ps. 18:10

His Angels

- [4] Who maketh his angels spirits; his ministers a flaming fire: [5] Who laid the foundations of the earth, that it should not be removed for ever.
- Angels are assigned to every born again believer. They are to minister to those who are heirs of salvation. Matt. 18:10 Heb 1:14-2:3
- God have given his angels charge over your life to watch for and protect you from the attacks of the enemy. Ps. 91:9-12.
- The devil knew Jesus had angels watching over him and tempted him with the word. Matt. 4:5-11
- How did he get them to work for him? Luke 22:40-46
- Notice the disciples missed the warning to enter not into temptation. Your angel needs you to confess the right things regardless of the situation. They are listening to what comes out of your mouth. They respond to our positive confessions and are provoked by our negative confession. Ps. 103:20-21, Josh 1:8, Ex. 23:20-23.
- Though he has hung the earth upon nothing balanced by its own weight, yet it is as immovable as if it had been laid upon the surest foundations. He has built the earth upon her basis, though it has received a dangerous shock by the sin of man, and the malice of hell strikes at it, yet it shall not be removed for ever, that is, not till the end of time, when it must give way to the new earth. Job 26:2 Matt. 5:18

The Sea

- [6] Thou coveredst it with the deep as with a garment: the waters stood above the mountains. [7] At thy rebuke they fled; at the voice of thy thunder they hasted away.
- The waters were above the mountains; and so it was unfit to be a habitation for man; and therefore, on the third day, God said, Let the waters under the heaven be gathered to one place, and let the dry land appear. Gen. 1:9
- This command of God is here called his rebuke, as if he gave it because he was displeased that the earth was thus covered with water and not fit for man to dwell on. Power went along with this word, and therefore it is also called here the voice of his thunder.
- The waters fled away by the power His word, as if they were made aware that they were out of their place. Ps. 77:16.
- Even those fluid bodies received the impression of God's terror. But was the Lord displeased against the rivers? No; it was for the salvation of his people. Hab. 3:8
- So here; God rebuked the waters for man's sake, to prepare room for him; for men must not be made as the fishes of the sea. All of creation is centered in meeting the needs of Gods offspring's. Ps. 8:4

The Waters

- [8] They go up by the mountains; they go down by the valleys unto the place which thou hast founded for them. [9] Thou hast set a bound that they may not pass over; that they turn not again to cover the earth.
- God created and established our water systems to care for all living creatures, not just those on the mountains, but those in the valley as well. They will neither stop at the former nor lodge in the latter, but make the best of their way to the place which thou hast founded for them, and there they make their bed. Let the stability of the unstable waters teach us obedience to the word and will of God; for shall man alone of all the creatures be obstinate? Mark 4:37-41
- The waters are forbidden to pass over the limits set them; they may not, and therefore they do not, turn again to cover the earth. Once they did, in Noah's flood, because God bade them, but never since, because he forbids them, having promised not to drown the world again and uses it as an argument with us to fear him, Jer. 5:22
- This, if duly considered, would keep the world in awe of the Lord and his goodness, That the waters of the sea would soon cover the earth if God did not restrain them. Gen. 9:11-17

The Springs and Rivers

- [10] He sendeth the springs into the valleys, which run among the hills. [11] They give drink to every beast of the field: the wild asses quench their thirst.
- He provides fresh water for all living creatures. He sends the springs into the valleys.
- There is water enough indeed in the sea. 70% of the earth is covered with it. Yet only 1% of the worlds water resource is available to quench your thirst. It is all so salty and therefore God has graciously provided water fit to drink.
- Naturalists dispute about the origin of fountains; but, whatever are their second causes, here is their first cause; it is God that sends the springs into the brooks, which walk by easy steps between the hills, and receive increase from the rain-water that descends from them.
- These water systems give drink, not only to man, and those creatures that are immediately useful to him, but to every beast of the field; for where God has given life he provides a livelihood and takes care of all the creatures.
- Even the wild asses, though untamable and therefore of no use to man, are welcome to quench their thirst; and we have no reason to grudge it them, for we are better provided for, though born like the wild ass's colt. Eph. 2:1-8

His Provisions

- [12] By them shall the fowls of the heaven have their habitation, which sing among the branches. [13] He watereth the hills from his chambers: the earth is satisfied with the fruit of thy works.
- Even the fowl of the air are not over looked, for God has made provision even for them. Matt. 6:26, 10:29
- We have reason to thank God for the plenty of fair water with which he has provided the habitable part of his earth, which otherwise would not be habitable.
- He provides food convenient for them, both for man and beast: The heavens drop fatness; they hear the earth, but God hears them. Hos. 2:21.
- He waters the hills from his chambers The beams of which he lays in the waters, those store-chambers, the clouds that give fruitful showers.
- The hills that are not watered by the rivers, as Egypt was by the Nile, but are watered by the rain from heaven, which is called the river of God. Ps. 65:9-13
- Thus the earth is satisfied with His provisions. The earth knows when it has been satisfied either with the rain it drinks in or the fruit it bears. It is a satisfaction to the earth to bear the fruit of God's works for the benefit of man, for thus it answers the end of its creation. Gen.1:26-28, Ps. 115:15-18