

A Nobel Calling

"There is the sea, vast and spacious, teeming with creatures beyond number—living things both large and small." (Psalm 104:25) 'Teeming with creatures beyond number', that means that there are more creatures in the ocean than anyone has ever seen. There have been 409,543 named species documented in the World Register of Marine Species. This was authenticated on March 18, 2019. More than eighty percent of our oceans have not been deeply explored, yet eighty-eight percent of our oceans are polluted. In 2012 it was said that one-third to two-thirds of marine species have not been discovered. If we keep up this rate of polluting, we will not even get to discover all the wonderful creatures God has created; they will all go extinct because of our greedy and wasteful ways.

The world generates AT LEAST 3.5 million tons of trash... A DAY! That much in just one day! The United States by itself produces two-hundred and fifty million tons of trash a year! If we cover God's beautiful creation with all that waste, how can we admire it? Not only are we destroying ecosystems, we also hurt God by doing this. He trusted us with his creation, and this is how we treat it? Jesus gave up his life for us, so that we could live with Him eternally. He gave up his place with God; He was equal with God, but He gave it up to save us from our sins. Jesus is full man, full God and died in the most painful way, death on a cross. He did all this to save us from our sins, yet we sin everyday whenever we damage God's beautiful creation.

All God wants is for us to take care of His creation and to follow Him. Was Jesus able to feed five-thousand people with five loaves of bread and two fish? How was He able to do this? First, He performed a miracle with the help of God,

but how else was he able to do this? From the resources of the Earth. He feed the people with fish and bread; fish being a natural resource of the Earth and bread, which is produced from Earth's natural resources. If we pollute our oceans, we will not have the natural resource of fish, and if we keep expanding and destroying farmland, we will not have anywhere to grow the necessities to survive. If humanity keeps destroying ecosystems, then more and more animals will become extinct. This will eventually affect us and everything God has given us will come crashing down.

Another prime example of Jesus using the Earth was during the wedding of Cana. Jesus performed his first miracle here. He turned water into wine. Once again, if He did not have one of Earth's natural resources, he would not have been able to perform this miracle. Nearly seventy-five percent of Earth is covered in water, but only two and a half percent of it is fresh water. According to the United Nations, water use has doubled as the rate of the population has increased in the last century. By 2025, it is estimated that 1.8 billion people will live in areas with water scarcity. Two-thirds of the population will be living in water-stressed regions as a result of growth, use, and climate change. Imagine how this will affect our ecosystems.

Throughout this writing piece I have used the word 'we' a lot. I say 'we' because everyone is a part of this world-wide crisis. No matter how much some people are already trying to fix our problem, we need everyone to step up to the task. Do not think of it as, "I won't be around when the world is completely polluted", or "One person won't make a difference, so why should I care". Try to use reusable grocery bags or the reusable milk carton companies that bring you your drinks in glass and pick them up when you are done. Some of these things are

extra money, but if we do not have an Earth to live on, then money will be useless. "As stewards of God's creation, we are called to make the Earth a beautiful garden for the human family. When we destroy our forests, ravage our soil and pollute our seas, we betray that noble calling." -Pope Francis

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