

"Let every created thing give praise to the Lord, for he issued his command, and they came into being."  
Psalms 148:5 NLT

## lectio // Psalm 148

An explosion of praise comes out of the pen of the Psalmist! Starting with all the heavens, "Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise him from the skies! Praise him, all his angels! Praise him, all the armies of heaven! Praise him, sun and moon! Praise him, all you twinkling stars! Praise him, skies above! Praise him, vapors high above the clouds!" And making his way down to weather systems and finally, people - "fire and hail, snow and clouds, wind and weather that obey him, mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars, wild animals and all livestock, small scurrying animals and birds, kings of the earth and all people, rulers and judges of the earth, young men and young women, old men and children." It is clear that EVERYTHING God made bows and gives a twinkle towards him. Everything, except humanity, who has been given the gift of their own free will. And because of sin and that now warped free will, the human heart has a difficult time recognizing their own creator. Everything else brags in bursts of wonder, while humans try their best to attribute praise to all creation and not the one who made all things. Such a sad and strange paradox. God created the human heart and soul and yet it is the very creature who fights against him and then gives their love to rocks, trees, whales and stars. I wouldn't say we are THAT STUPID, because it insults God, but we are that STUBBORN.

## oratio

Dad,

Honestly, I don't want to be stupid and stubborn. I recognize you as creator of all things! And, I recognize you as Lord and Savior of all humankind, which thankfully, includes me. I am in constant awe and wonder at your creation. Everything from the two seasons in California (Sunny and less sunny), to the power and majesty of our oceans, mountains, animals and flora and fauna. I saw some thorns on a beautiful plant, while on a walk with Robin, and I wondered, "are their thorns in heaven?" I figured they were there to protect the plant, but I didn't see anyone trying to hurt it. I love thinking about the fact that this planet is a dim reflection compared to heaven, so I can't wait to see the full splendor of heaven and the new earth.

## contemplatio

rest in the presence of God, allowing the words revealed to take root