

All creatures of our God and King,
lift up your voice and with us sing,
"Alleluia! Alleluia!" - St. Francis, 1225

All things bright and beautiful,
all creatures great and small,
all things wise and wonderful,
the Lord God made them all.

Each little flow'r that opens,
each little bird that sings,
He made their glowing colors,
He made their tiny wings.

He gave us eyes to see them,
and lips that we might tell
how great is God Almighty,
who has made all things well.
-Cecil Francis Alexander 1848

Assignment:

1. Read Exodus 19:4; Deuteronomy 32:11; Psalm 91:4; Hosea 13:7-8. What attributes of God do these animal depictions teach?
2. Read Proverbs 30:24-31. What are the lessons of wisdom that you can learn from the animal life presented in these verses?
3. Read Job 26:12-13, 40:15-24, 41:1-34; Psalm 91:13, 148:7. Do you think these verses could be references to dinosaurs? Why or why not?
4. Have you been growing in your knowledge of God as Creator? What is the benefit of learning of all his wondrous and mighty acts of creation?

Of Brilliance and Beasts: Days 4, 5, and 6 of Creation

I. Day 4: Lights to govern. (Genesis 1:14-19)

A. Purposes of the Heavenly Bodies:

1. They SHINE. (Matthew 13:43)
2. They SIGNIFY. (Genesis 37:9-10)
3. They determine SEASONS. (Lev 23:5-6; Col 2:16-17)
4. They are CLOCKS for days and years.
5. They are SOVEREIGN. They rule. (Rev 1:20; Genesis 37:9-10)
6. They are associated with ANGELS (Job 38:7) and SAINTS. (Gen. 15:5; Phil. 2:15)

II. Day 5: Living creatures in sea and sky. (Genesis 1:20-23)

A. Introducing the *nephesh hayah*: the LIVING SOUL.

B. Sea creatures show the fullness of God's REIGN.

C. Flying creatures point our eyes to HEAVEN and fill creation with simple KNOWLEDGE. (Psalm 84:3; Jeremiah 8:7; Matthew 6:26)

III. Day 6: Living creatures on the land. (Genesis 1:24-25)

A. 3 Categories:

1. LIVESTOCK
2. CREEPING things
3. BEASTS of the earth

B. To image the needed lessons of HUMAN life.