



28 February 2025

## Beauty

*Beauty.* We all know it. Yet as universal and enduring as it is, it also is controversial. Is it an objective feature of some things or is it subjective and personal? Is “beauty in the eye of the beholder”? To me something is beautiful, to you it is ugly.

I am not going to lead us in thinking about the nature of beauty today. I want us to think about the fact that God is beautiful.



Yes, God is beautiful. A song opens,

“Oh Lord, You’re beautiful. Your face is all I seek. And when Your eyes are on this child Your grace abounds to me.”

Those words reflect Scripture. Isaiah chapter 33 speaks of God’s judgment on the ungodly and draws a contrast between them and the godly.

“One who walks righteously and speaks with integrity ... your eyes will see the King in His beauty” (Isaiah 33:15, 17).

And then we recall king David singing,

“One thing I have asked from the LORD, that I shall seek: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD and to meditate in His temple” (Psalm 27:4).

God is beautiful. But what does that mean? We see the beauty of God’s creation, even marred by the fall. Wherever we are, whatever season it may be, when we look around us, when we look at the familiar or new, when we look up into the sky, we see God’s beauty on display in His creation. Many of us have visited Moraine Lake. It’s billed as *Canada’s Most Beautiful Lake*. The promotional description tells us, “There is no image more iconic of the Canadian Rockies, or Canada for that matter, than Moraine Lake. The alpine lake is a wild turquoise blue fed by glacier melt and set against a backdrop of the Ten Peaks.” I think all who have seen it agree, *it’s beautiful!*

Creation displays, reflects the beauty of God. God’s redemption in Christ displays His beauty. All of God’s works display His beauty because He is beautiful.

The core of His beauty is in His nature. The song of thanksgiving when the ark of God was brought to Jerusalem calls out,

“Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; bring an offering and come before him. Worship the LORD in the splendor of his holiness.”

(1 Chronicles 16:29)

All that God does is beautiful because He is beautiful — His perfect character is beyond our ability to describe. Think for a moment about God’s beauty in all that He has given you by His grace. For starters,

The apostle John wrote, “For of His [Christ’s] fullness we have all received, and grace upon grace” (1:16).

The apostle Peter tells us that Christ’s “divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence” (2 Peter 1:3).

The apostle Paul declared, “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we would be holy and blameless before Him” (Ephesians 1:3-4).

Take some time to explore the beautiful, perfect character of God as you read the Bible. Drink deeply. Someone said, “a shallow view of God leads to a shallow life.” I would add that a shallow, ill-informed view of God clouds our view of God’s beauty and His grace to us, robs us of the proper focus on God, reverence for Him, peace and joy that He wants us to have. So, sing along, live out “Oh Lord, You’re beautiful. Your face is all I seek.”

Pastor Lyle