

The Heights and the Depths of Life

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I. Introduction.

A. Text: Genesis 1:20-23.

B. The first three days deal with basic realities in the physical world. The second set of three deals with relationships involved with these.

II. In the water, God brought forth swarms of living creatures with souls.

A. Animals have souls.

B. They can think, feel and decide.

C. Even in the animal creation God ties in the remarkable ability of sex introducing the blessing of pleasure.

III. We need the physical to remind us of the important spiritual realities reflected behind it.

A. Nature is not the key to the world of revelation—revelation is the key to understanding nature.

B. Genesis 1 is a table of contents to the remainder of Scripture.

1. The ocean and the sky are pictures of the physical and the spiritual life.

2. The division of the land and the sea are a picture of a division between humanity—that which is barren and the new humanity that is fruitful in Christ.

3. The sun and the moon represent Jesus, the light of the world, and believer, a reflection of Christ, respectively.

IV. The significance of the filling of the oceans with fish and the sky with birds.

A. This teaches us how to live in the midst of dangers and perils sustaining ourselves in triumph. (Romans 8)

B. Genesis 1 is written to the spiritual man. (I Corinthians 2)

C. The sky represents an alien realm to humankind while the oceans typify the worldly realm.

1. The one living in the oceans depends upon his resources.

2. The one living in the atmosphere is depending upon outside resources.

a. Living in the divine realm requires volition.

b. It results in dynamic emotion.

c. The blessing of God is brought in here picturing the divine impartation of the divine life.

d. We are simply to obey God in dependence upon Him.

Application questions:

1. How might the sea and the sky typify the believer's life? Explain.

2. Why is depending upon one's own resources for satisfaction folly?

3. How have you struggled to depend on God? What steps can you take to increase your dependence upon Him this week?
