

## **REFLECTIONS**

*Thoughts on nature and the Christian faith - 3/12/18*



Being alone early in the morning by the backwaters of a remote lake is to be engulfed in mystery. It is mysterious because the things that normally provide context are gone. Colors are muted, sounds are deadened, and vision is limited. The fog becomes a shroud, hiding what lies beyond our sight. This was the experience of all who lived before the coming of Jesus. God provided His people with things that were shadows of what was to come, sacred feast days, sacrificial offerings, and intriguing prophecies all pointed to something beyond the mist. The mystery, however, became clear with the coming of Christ. In Jesus the veil was lifted and the answer to all of our longings was revealed. And one amazing thing became clear, Christ has broken down all the barriers we have erected to divide the human race. In Christ, there is no longer separation between Jew and gentile, male and female, black and white, rich and poor. We are all one in him. We are all sinners with the same need, and we are all redeemed by the same Savior. In Christ all distinctions are erased. We are all blessed with different gifts, but we are all part of one body. The gospel is the great leveling instrument for all mankind. Those who refuse this gift remain in a divided warring world with no answer to the questions that plague us. But those of us who have put our trust in the One who is the answer to all mysteries are one. We are one in everything that matters. But what troubles me, and should trouble all of us, is why don't we act like it? - John