

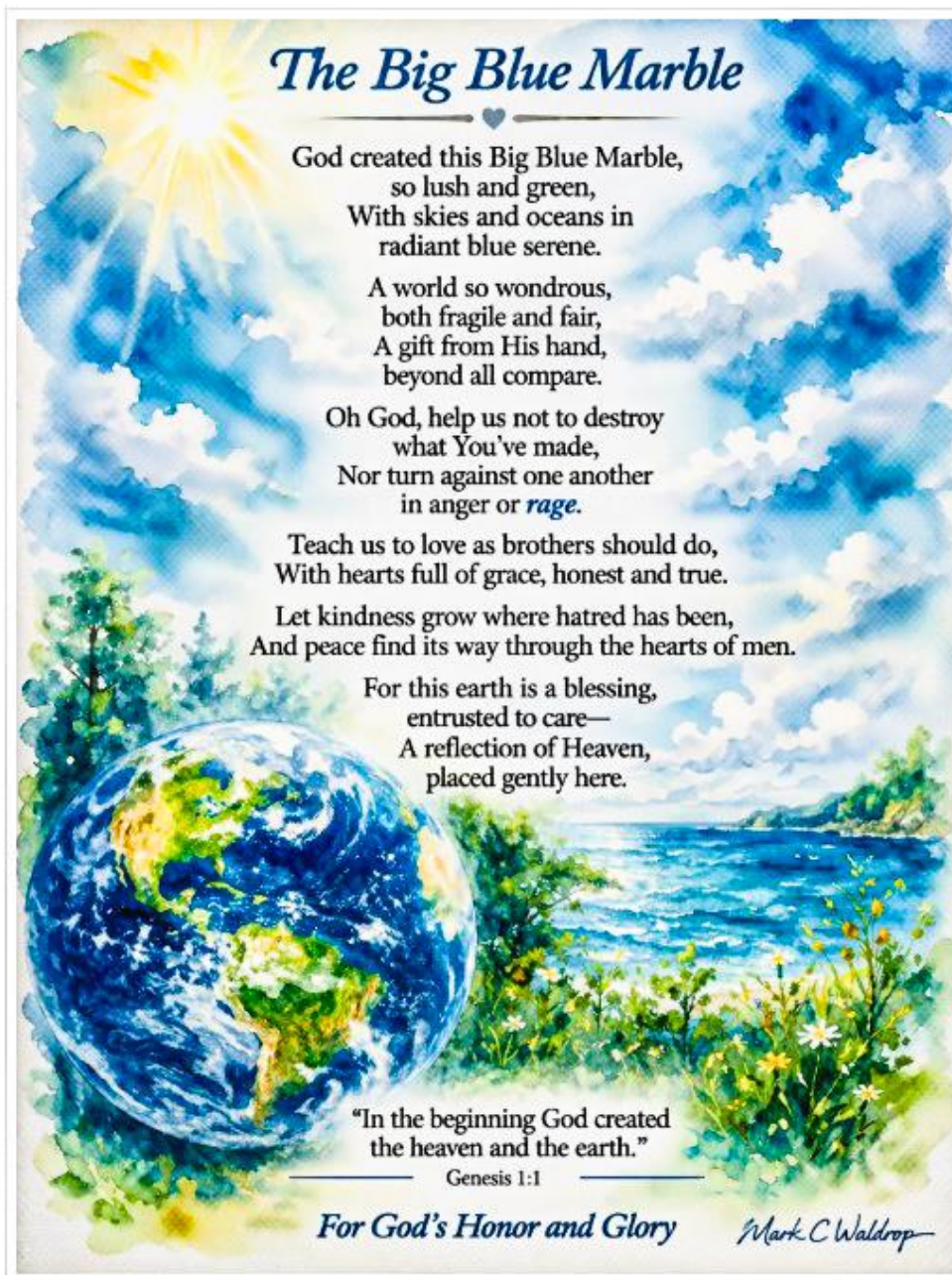
A full-page background image of a sunset over a beach. The sky is filled with layers of clouds, illuminated from below by the setting sun, creating a vibrant orange and yellow glow. The sun itself is a small, bright orange disk just above the horizon line. The ocean is dark, with white foam from waves breaking onto the shore. The beach in the foreground is dark sand, with some wet patches reflecting the light from the sky.

IT'S A WONDERMENT

TAKE A CLOSER LOOK AND SEE

The path of the righteous is like the first gleam of dawn, shining ever brighter till the full light of day. But the way of the wicked is like deep darkness; they do not know what makes them stumble. Proverbs 4:8

Photos taken by *John Hensel Jr.*



Subjects by
***Our Creator God,
 Who Is Father, Son,
 and Holy Spirit***

Photos taken by
John Hensel Jr.

Poetry
Mark C. Waldrop



For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities-his eternal power and divine nature-have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse. Romans 1:20.

This is a collection of my photographs that will give you a closer look at the natural world God has created. Nature is truly a Wonderment. What is a wonderment you may ask? It is a state of awed admiration or respect, a feeling of surprise, awe and joy. I have learned, from spending time in the outdoors, to see things most people miss because they don't take time to slowdown and look at the natural world around them. They are too busy with other things so they miss seeing the wonder of God's creation that is all around them. My prayer is that these photographs will give you a closer look at what you may be missing and get you to slowdown and see the awesome world God has created for mankind. To quote George Washington Carver, " I love to think of nature as an unlimited broadcasting station, through which God speaks to us every hour, if we will only tune in." Nature is a wonderment that reveals God's glory, creativity, presence, beauty, wisdom, power, and His awesome love for us.

**How many are your works, O
LORD! In wisdom you made them
all; the earth is full of your
creatures.**

**There is the sea, vast and
spacious, teeming with creatures
beyond number— living things
both large and small.**

Psalm 104:24–25



The Master Artist

Look very closely if you will,
Beyond the mountain, stream, and hill;
Past painted skies at setting sun
And all the wonders He has done.

See how the clouds in softness roll,
Like brush strokes from the Master's soul;
Each gentle swirl across the blue
A silent masterpiece in view.

No human hand could quite portray
The beauty fashioned day by day;
The colors mingled in the light
That greet the dawn and guard the night.

The towering trees, the meadow fair,
The birds that glide upon the air,
The flowers dressed in morning dew
All bear the Artist's signature too.

The oceans sing, the rivers wind.
The seasons change by His design;
And every star that lights the sky
Was placed there by His hand on high.

Yet greater still than earth displayed,
Than every mountain He has made,
Is knowing that the God above
Painted creation out of love.

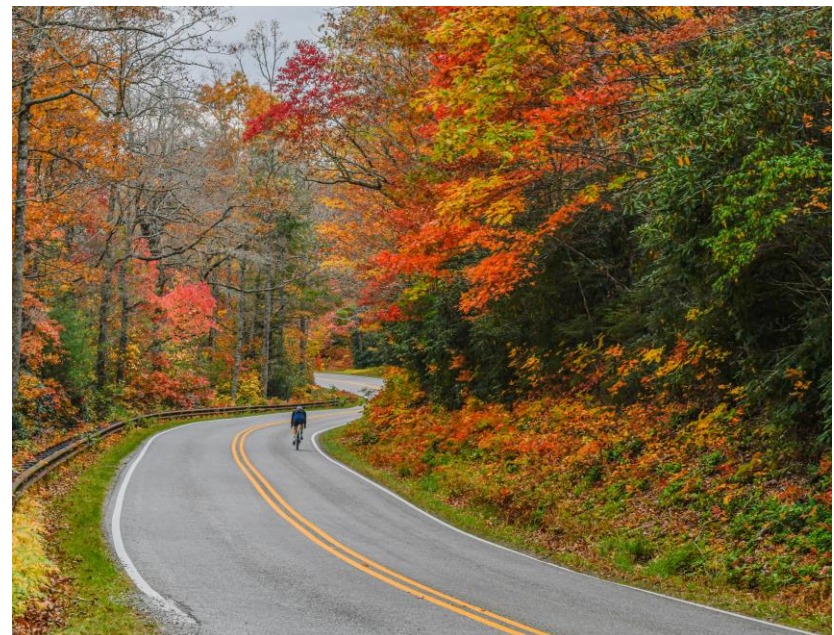
So pause a moment, look once more,
At every wonder to adore;
And let your grateful heart proclaim:

*"The heavens declare the glory of God;
and the firmament sheweth his handywork."*

Psalm 19:1 (KJV)

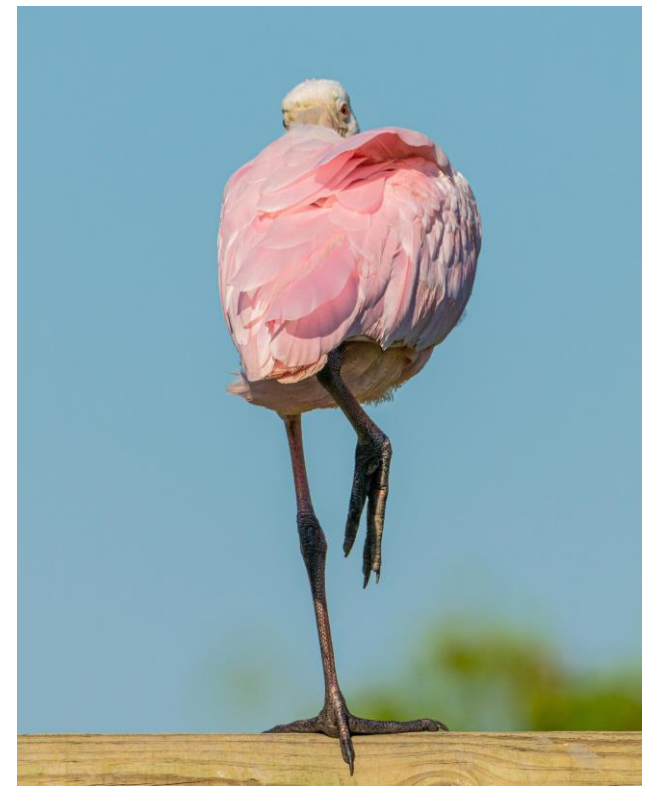
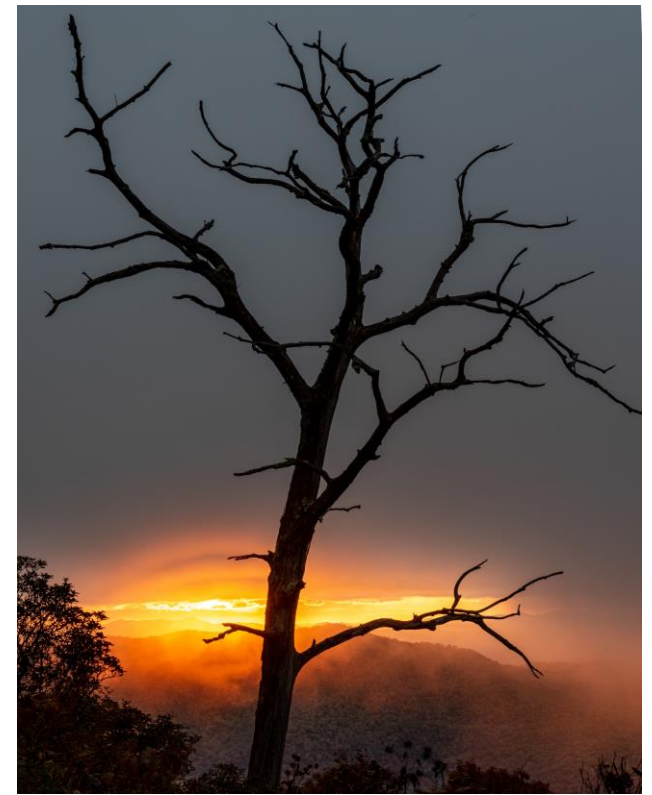
Praise You, Lord!
For God's Honor and Glory

Mark C. Waldrop ♥

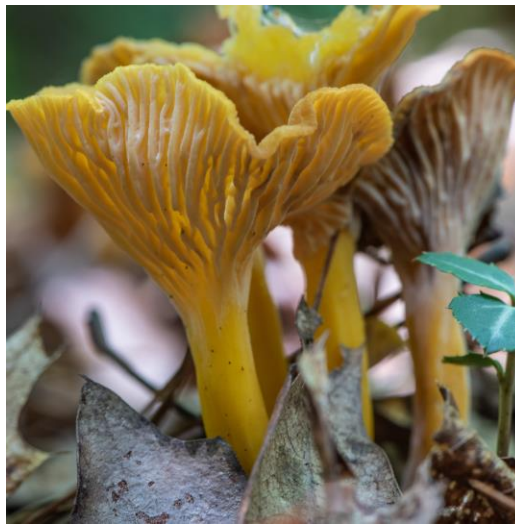


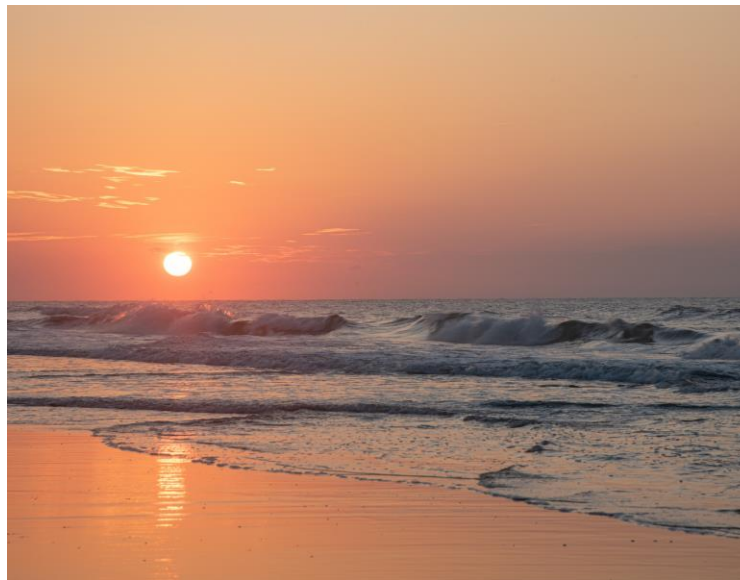
**The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands.
Day after day they pour forth speech;
night after night they display knowledge.
There is no speech or language where their voice is not heard.
Their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world. *Ps 19:1–4.***



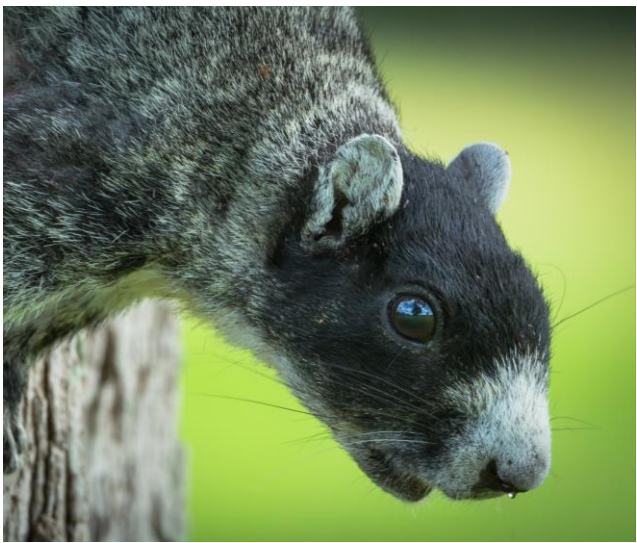


Through him
all things were
made; without
him nothing
was made that
has been
made. *John*
1:3.





**But ask the
animals, and they
will teach you,
or the birds of
the air, and they
will tell you;
or speak to the
earth, and it will
teach you,
or let the fish
of the sea inform
you.
Which of all
these does not
know
that the hand
of the LORD has
done this?
In his hand is
the life of every
creature
and the breath
of all mankind.
*Job 12:7-10.***





My Cathedral Beneath the Sky

My cathedral has a ceiling of blue,
A vast and boundless dome above;
Painted each day by the Master's hand,
A living portrait of His love.

My cathedral rests beneath the sky,
Where mountains lift their heads in praise;
Where sunlight dances on the hills
And fills my heart with wonder-filled days.

There I lift my eyes unto the hills,
As David did in days gone by;
And hear the music of a rippling stream
Sing softly as it journeys by.

My cathedral has an altar of flowers,
Their colors bright, their fragrance sweet;
Each blossom seems to testify
Of God's own handiwork complete.

The whispering breeze becomes a hymn,
The singing birds a joyful choir;
The towering pines like steeples stand,
Pointing upward ever higher.

No stained-glass windows frame the light,
For Heaven's sunshine fills the place;
And every cloud that drifts above
Reminds me of His boundless grace.

The fragrance of the meadow blooms
Rises gently through the air;
Like incense from a grateful heart,
Ascending heavenward in prayer.

In my cathedral I am closer to Him
Than words could ever fully say;
For all creation speaks His name
And draws my wandering heart His way.

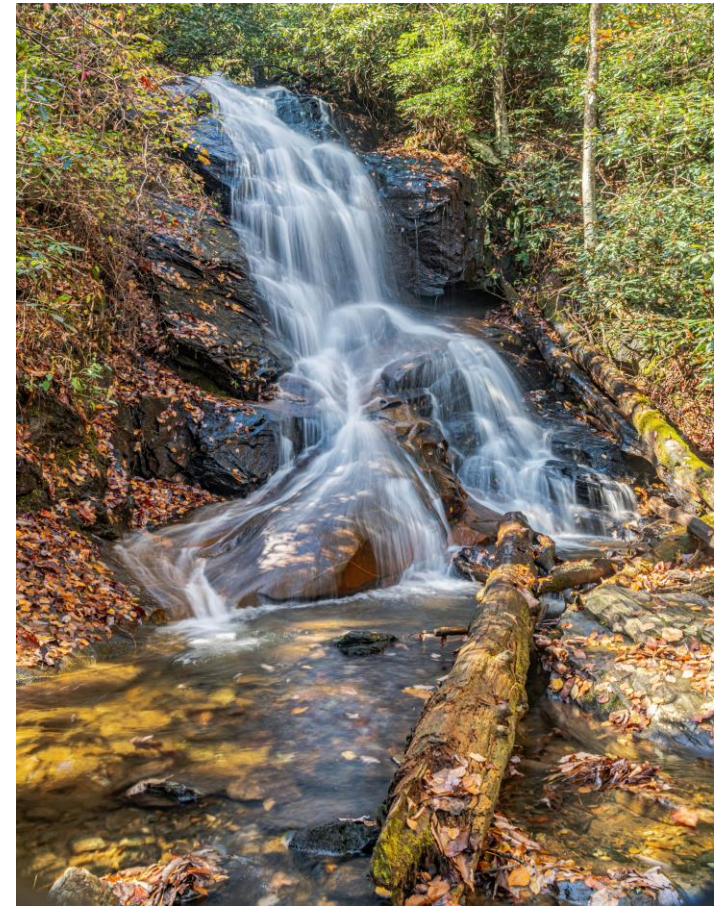
There, beneath the open sky,
Where earth and Heaven seem to meet,
I find the peace my soul has sought
And rest in fellowship so sweet.

My cathedral has a ceiling of blue,
An altar bright with flowers fair;
And in that sacred place of grace,
I find my Savior waiting there.

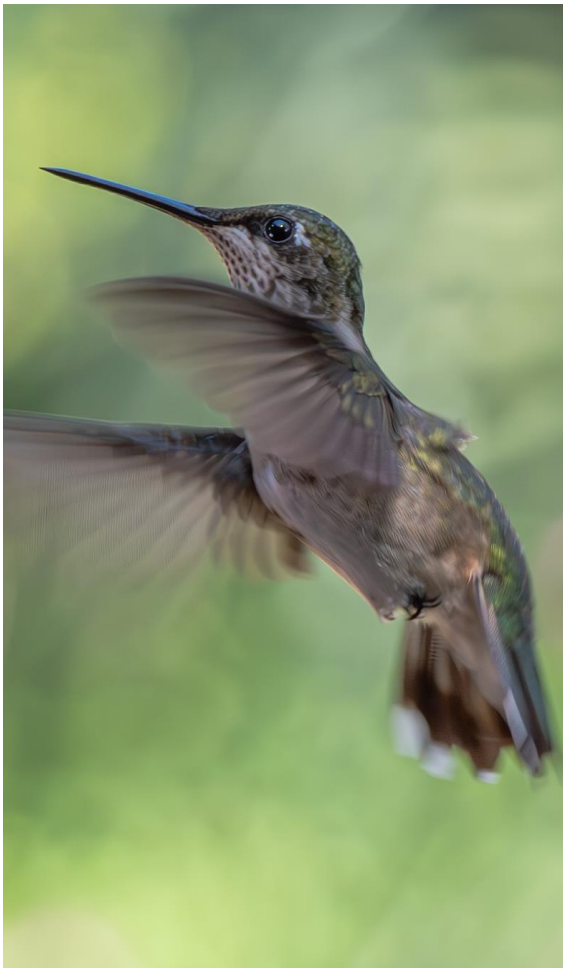
*"The heavens declare the glory of God;
and the firmament sheweth his handywork."*
Psalm 19:1 (KJV)

For God's Honor and Glory

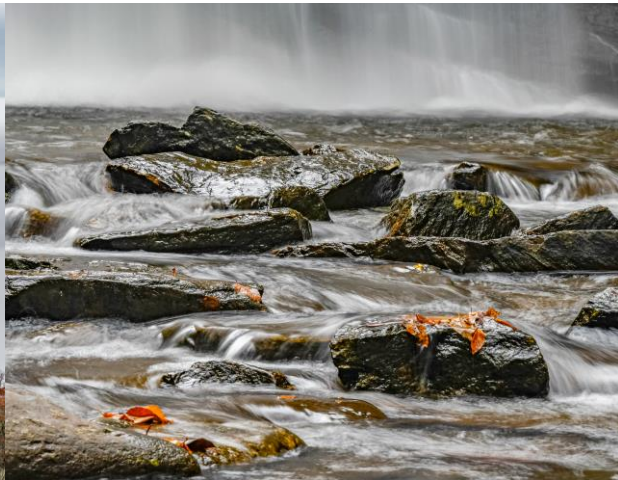
Mark C. Waltrip





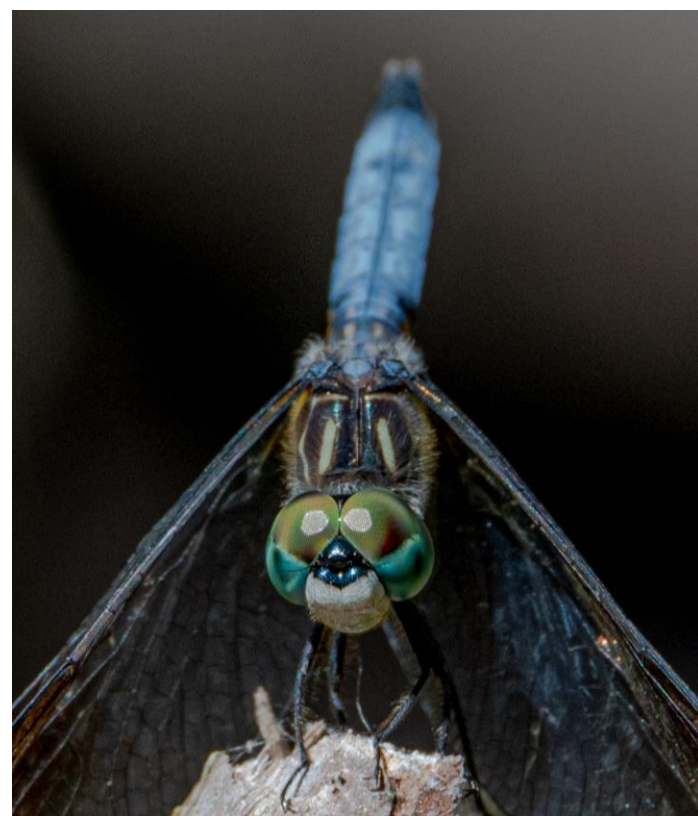


**But they
deliberately
forget that
long ago by
God's word
the heavens
existed and
the earth
was formed
out of water
and by
water. 2
*Peter 3:5.***





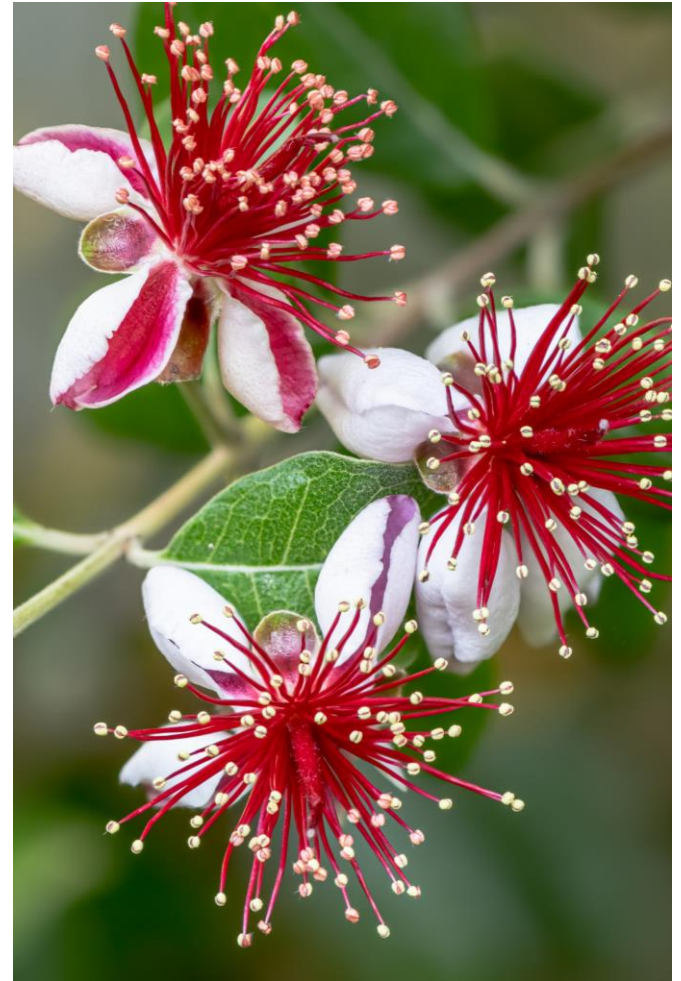
For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth,
visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities;
all things were created by him and for him. *Colossians 1:16*





**Listen to this, Job;
stop and consider God's wonders.
Do you know how God controls the clouds
and makes his lightning flash?
Do you know how the clouds hang poised,
those wonders of him who is perfect in knowledge? *Job 37:14–16.***





**Lovely flowers are the smiles of
God's goodness. *William Wilberforce***



Stop and Smell the Roses

Stop and smell the roses fair,
And breathe the sweetness God placed there;
Do not let hurried footsteps blind
The quiet blessings meant to fill the mind.

For life moves swiftly day by day,
And precious moments slip away;
Yet Heaven whispers soft and near
To hearts that pause enough to hear.

The roses blooming in the sod
Are gentle fingerprints of God;
Their colors bright, their fragrance sweet,
Reflect the Maker we shall meet.

Each petal formed with tender care
Declares His glory everywhere;
Creation's beauty softly shows
The love of Christ through every rose.

So slow your pace and lift your eyes,
Beyond the earth and changing skies;
For all the beauty we behold
Points to a Savior worth far more than gold.

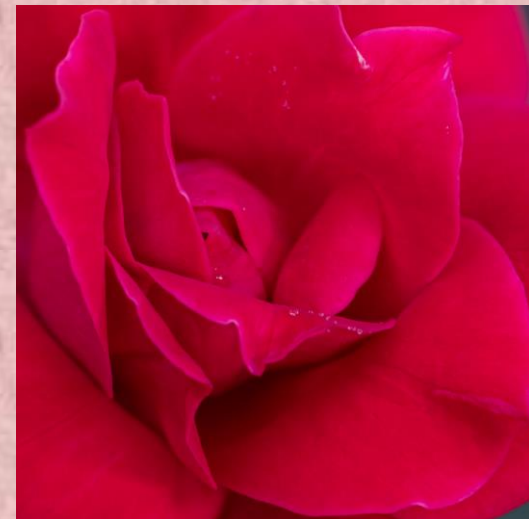
And when the hurried days are done,
May we still walk beside God's Son;
Remembering through joy and strife
The Giver of the breath of life.

*"Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow;
they toil not, neither do they spin:
And yet I say unto you,
That even Solomon in all his glory
was not arrayed like one of these."*

— Matthew 6:28-29 (KJV)

✠
FOR GOD'S HONOR AND GLORY

Mark C. Walbridge



**God dwells in His creation
and is everywhere
indivisibly present in all
His works. He is
transcendent above all His
works even while He is
immanent within them.**

A. W. Tozer





Whenever the rainbow appears in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and all living creatures of every kind on the earth.”

Genesis 9:16



Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean;
wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.

Psalms 51:7



“Fairest Lord Jesus, ruler of all nature, O Thou of God and
man the Son, Thee will I cherish, Thee will I honor, Thou
my soul’s glory, joy, and crown.”

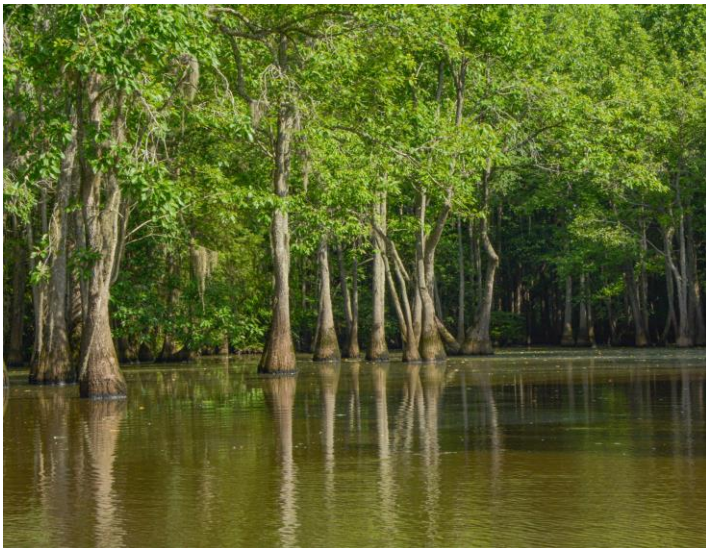
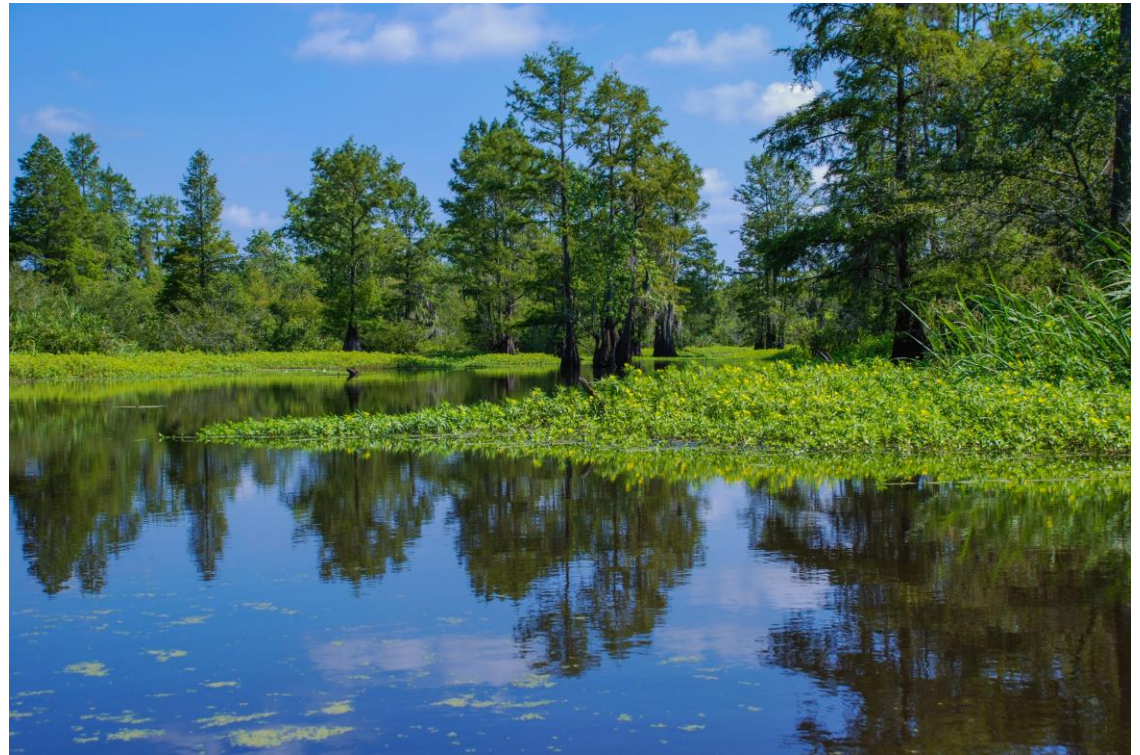
**Praise the LORD.
Praise the LORD from the
heavens,
praise him in the heights above.
Praise him, all his angels,
praise him, all his heavenly hosts.
Praise him, sun and moon,
praise him, all you shining stars.
Praise him, you highest heavens
and you waters above the skies.
Let them praise the name of the
LORD,
for he commanded and they were
created.
He set them in place for ever and
ever;
he gave a decree that will never
pass away.
Praise the LORD from the earth,
you great sea creatures and all
ocean depths,
lightning and hail, snow and
clouds,
stormy winds that do his bidding,
you mountains and all hills,
fruit trees and all cedars,
wild animals and all cattle,
small creatures and flying birds.
*Psalm 148:1–10.***







**Nature is too thin a screen, the
glory of the omnipresent God
burst through everywhere.
*Ralph Waldo Emerson***



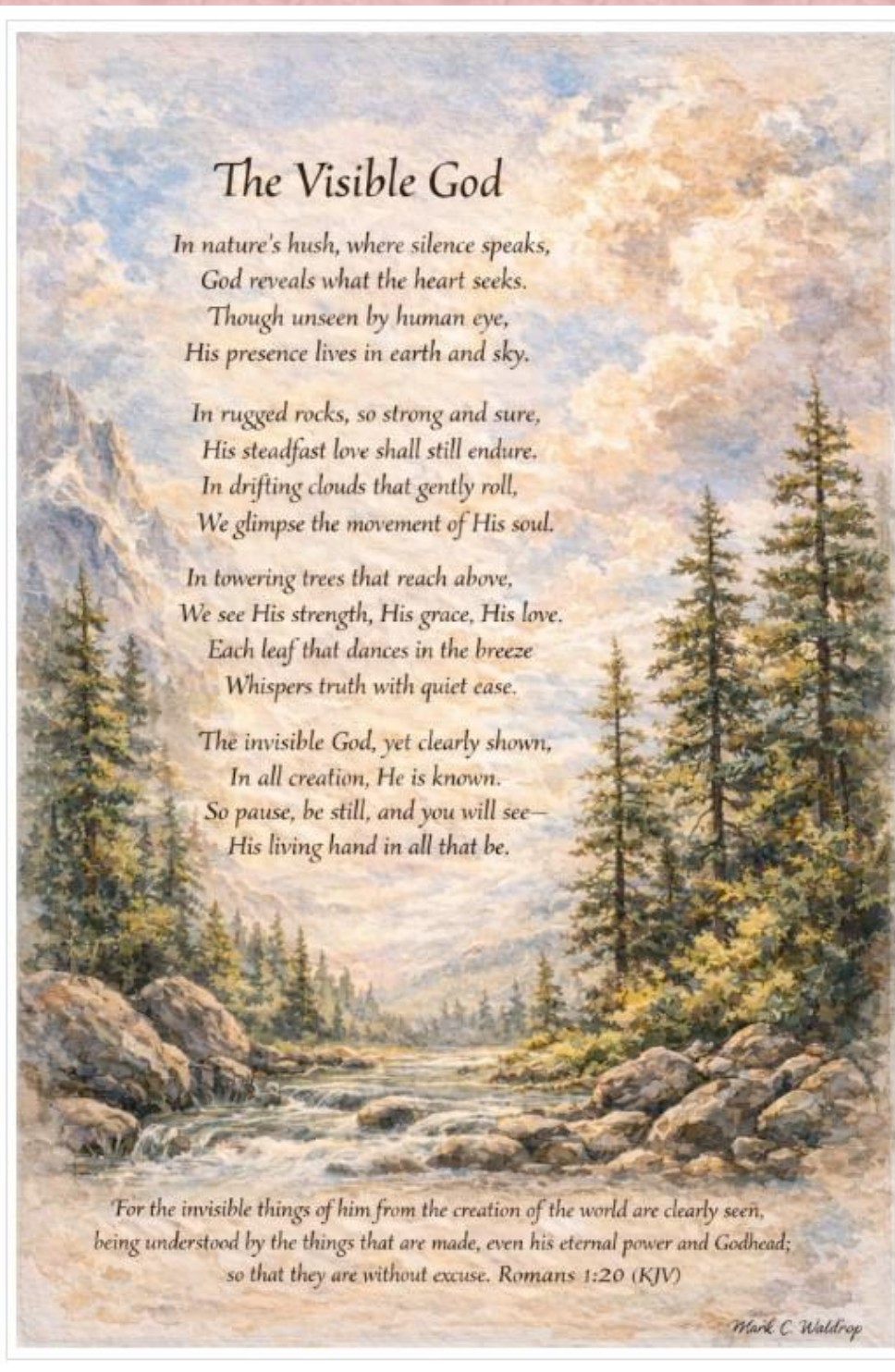




Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.” ***Joshua 1:9***

Thank you for viewing this website photo book, "It's A Wonderment - Take A Closer Look and See". I hope you enjoyed my photographs. If you have any questions or comments, you can contact me through this websites contact page. I would love to hear your comments, good or bad.

I would also like to thank Mark C. Waldrop for his wonderful and inspiring poetry. You can see more of it at www.ap777.org.



My prayer is that you will see the wonderment of God's creation through these photographs and poetry and it will inspire you to take a closer look at the natural world around you.

Since you are interested in who I am, I will tell you. I am a blessed and favored son of the Lord God Most High, who was and is and always will be my Father in Heaven. God is with me, God is for me and there is no one greater than God, and you can't get much better than that.
Amen

**SEE MORE PHOTOGRAPHS BY JOHN HENSEL JR.
GO TO HIS WEBSITE AT
photosbyjohnhensel.com**

**FOR MORE POETRY BY MARK C. WALDROP GO TO
THE POETRY PORCH AND OUR FATHER KNOWS
BEST DAILY DEVOTIONALS WEBSITE AT
www.ap777.org**