

2012 - 9th November _ 2. The Dearest Freshness

All of creation is already sacred and reveals something of the splendour of God. That is why we say the event of incarnation has ended all dualism. Heaven and earth are forever mysteriously intertwined since the Word became flesh. And deep in our own inner being the reign of God forms an intrinsic part of our true nature.

The poets and artists are never tired of playing with this fascinating theme. Unlike the official teachers of religion, they have never lost the sense of wonder at the mystery of the indwelling of God in creation. For them, the smallest particle of creation becomes a window on God's beauty. Their intense energy is spent on revealing 'the dearest freshness that lives deep down things' They see 'his blood upon the rose and in the stars the glory of his eyes.' Like 'flaming shook foil', God's splendour radiates from all creatures for those who stay blessed with the original vision of childhood. The artist and the mystic use images and symbols to catch the fire-fly glimpses of the extraordinary presence of a Spirit of Wonder beneath the seemingly superficial and ordinary. Once we become sensitive to the meaning of the birth, life, death and resurrection of Jesus, then everything is changed. We see the world differently. We finally get the message. The human holds the key to God. 'Salvation', as the Church Father Tertullian said, 'hinges on the flesh'. All things are made new. From now on, our vision and our focus will be trained on discovering the God of surprises hiding and playing at the heart of life. (Passion for the Possible p 17)