

Creationtide 2023

DOXECOLOGY 1: The Beauty of Creation

- What aspects of creation do you most enjoy?

Open your Bible at Genesis 1 & 2

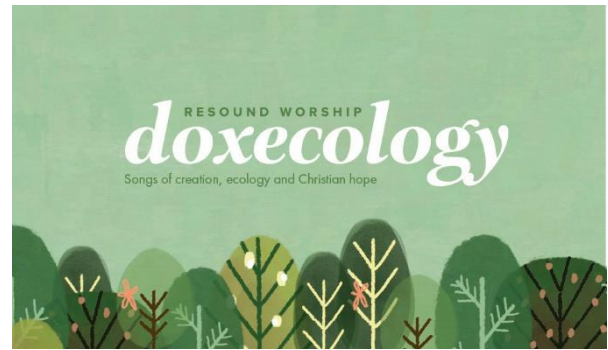
- The biblical account of creation asserts that the God of Israel is the true creator. This God is a god who creates order from chaos. What do you make of the opening verses of Genesis 1?
- Do you think of the earth, and all creation, as something intrinsically good?
- How do these chapters encourage us to look after creation?
- How often do you take time to rest and simply enjoy what God has called 'very good'? How could you create more time for this?

Read Psalm 148

- Psalm 148 pictures things we've seen many times before, but the psalmist makes us look afresh. How do they all praise God?
- Why do we often ignore creation's praise?
- What are some of the unique flora, fauna and geological properties of your area, and how might your worship give voice to the praise of God in the creation that surrounds you?
- What does it mean to live a life of praise?

Respond with prayer appropriate to the theme.

You may like to end by listening to the song opposite. It's available (as a video) on the [Resound Worship](https://www.resoundworship.com) website.



Heaven's voice brings the dawn,
out of chaos is born
new creation
exploding with wonder;
planets spin into space,
earth and sky find their place,
all of nature
awakes to its maker.

You say everything you've made is good:
the sun, the moon,
the stars that shine above.
You say everything you've made is good:
the land, the seas
and all that lives and breathes.

*We sing praise to the maker,
to our King, our creator:
praise to Almighty God.
All creation together
singing one hallelujah:
praise to Almighty God.*

We are formed from the dust,
with your image in us,
given life by the breath
you are breathing;
called to work and to care,
called to nurture and share;
called to serve you
and walk where you're leading.

© Joel Payne, Matt Weeks / Resound Worship

Further reading:

M & M Hodson, *Green Reflections*, BRF – a collection of reflections on Bible passages
M & M Hodson, *A Christian Guide to Environmental Issues*, BRF 2nd edition 2021