

**You call the worlds into being**

Psalm 96

October 19, 2008

*We believe in you ...*

*We believe in you, O God, Eternal Spirit,  
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ and our Father,  
and to your deeds we testify:  
You call the worlds into being ...*

(show video: "Creation")

*You call the worlds into being ...*

*The worlds ...*

This world and all the worlds unknown to us, everything that is, is called into being.

*Called into being ...*

This bay plant is here because Somebody called it here, because Somebody wanted it to be here. You are here because Somebody called you here, because Somebody wanted you here.

*You call the worlds into being ...*

It's about desire and intention, about purpose and worth. It means there is no throwaway stuff, no throwaway people, no unfortunate accidents of history or evolution.

*You call the worlds into being ...*

This is the faith we express. Do you see that our faith in a God who calls the worlds into being has absolutely no quarrel at all with science? Our faith addresses, not the process of creating, but the intent. It doesn't offer any witness as to how these things got here, but it does testify that they were called here!

Taking on evolution is the wrong fight, a senseless, fruitless dispute. Evolution is no enemy to faith. Apathy is the enemy of faith! Thinking that any of this doesn't matter. Thinking that any of this is not worth worrying about. Thinking that any of this is not worth caring about. Thinking that any of this is expendable.

*You call the worlds into being ...*

What is is because God wants it to be. And so we should treat everything -- every thing and every person -- with the care and respect they deserve.

*You call the worlds into being ...*

Why? It's always dangerous to ask why questions of God! Just ask Job! But why? Why do you suppose God, the Eternal Spirit, calls the worlds into being?

Perhaps for the sake of beauty, because God takes pleasure in all that is beautiful, because God takes delight in creating beautiful thing and beautiful creatures.

Perhaps for the sake of joy, because God wants to fill the universe with joy , because God takes pleasure in the joy of his creatures, because God takes delight in giving joy.

Perhaps for the sake of love, because God is love and to be God, God must have something, someone, upon whom to shower his love.

Perhaps, then, God calls the worlds into being for God's own sake, because God is not God existing perpetually alone, but God is God when God has a world to love, a world full of creatures to whom to give the best God has to give.

*You call the worlds into being ...*

When I hear that phrase, I imagine God singing the worlds into existence! I imagine a singing God singing each thing into existence, each person into life. Do you hear the song? The song taken up and sung by tree and mountain and stream and flower and bee and child?

Do you hear the song? Do you want to sing along?

*Alleluia!*