

# **The coming day when all creation will enjoy the glorious liberty of the sons of God**

**By Leon King**

The children who attended our Academy participated in a field trip to the Alaska Public Lands Office in downtown Anchorage. During their trip there, the hostess showed them a video which described the various animals of Alaska in their wild setting.

One part of the presentation showed the life-death struggle between a caribou and a grizzly bear. The mother grizzly bear was trying to provide for herself and her cubs. The caribou was defending his life. The caribou lost. His blood was shed, and his carcass was eaten by the hungry grizzly bears. That is a daily occurrence in Alaska. In other parts of the world, the actors in the drama of life are different. The result is the same.

Those who believe in evolution say this is just the way of life. For them, it is what nature ordained. Such ideas are continually set forth in the public education system, in entertainment, science, and the arts. Nothing is further from the truth.

As it has for six thousand years, the whole creation groans together in pain. There is killing and bloodshed daily just to survive. It is the survival of the fittest. It is kill or be killed. The reason for these things is not the "circle of life" or reincarnation. The sin of man has subjected the entire

creation to pain and vanity. Thank God the subjection of the created things to pain and vanity was with hope. One day, God will bring that all to an end.

When Jesus Christ returns to the earth as King of kings and Lord of lords, His kingdom will be one in which the animal kingdom is at peace. The killing and bloodshed we witness in this world among the animals, birds, and other creatures will stop. Since the garden of Eden, men have never seen such a time.

The eleventh chapter of Isaiah describes this wondrous time when the curse is lifted - at least in part. *"The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them. And the cow and bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together: and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice' den. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea."* -- Isaiah 11:6-9.

There will be a covenant of peace with the created things. Somebody will say, "this is some kind of metaphor." If it were, it would be most difficult—no, not merely difficult, but impossible to explain. It is reality.

*"And I will set up one shepherd over them, and he shall feed them, even my servant David; he shall feed them, and he shall be their shepherd. And I the LORD will be their God, and my servant David a prince among them; I the LORD have spoken it. And I will make with them a covenant of peace, and will cause the evil beasts to cease out of the land: and they shall dwell safely in the wilderness, and sleep in the woods."* -- **Ezekiel 34:23-25 (KJV).**

It doesn't take a great deal of study to realize God is speaking of the Son of David, the Lord Jesus Christ as the prince of His people. What a glorious time that will be!

We remember in our study of Noah's flood, that God sent the animals to Noah to put them in the Ark to be preserved through the flood. The fear and dread of man wasn't put on them until after the flood. The animals were not at enmity with one another until after Adam's sin. But because of his sin, the creation was made subject to vanity— perverseness, depravity, frailty. Man's sin brought trouble and death on the entire creation.

Another section in the book of Isaiah gives more insight into this wonderful period. Let us quote from chapter 65 where the Lord speaks of his earthly people and their circumstance:

**Isaiah 65:24-25 (KJV)** *And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear. The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, and the lion shall eat straw like the bullock: and dust shall be the serpent's meat. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain, saith the Lord."*

What are all of these myriads of creatures waiting for? Sometimes, I wonder if they know more than we give them credit for knowing. The Bible says they groan together in pain waiting for the manifestation of the sons of God. Look at Romans 8:18-23.

**Romans 8:18-23 (KJV)** *For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. For the earnest expectation of the creature (that which is created, my note LK) waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God. For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him, who hath subjected the same in hope. Because the*

*creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now. And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body."*

Blessed thought this is! It is frustrating at times to see all the wickedness and evil in the world. In spite of it, we know that the Great Sovereign of the Universe is moving all things in accordance with his purpose. Thank God, there is coming a day when the sons of God will be manifested. That means that the sons of God will be made known. Since the Scripture says that is the day of adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body, it is the day of the resurrection where our bodies of humiliation shall be changed and fashioned like unto Jesus' glorious body. Yes, there will be a day when the sons of God are manifested to all creation, then will the creation itself be delivered from the bondage of corruption.

The current new age philosophy is the same old story spawned by the devil in order to do what he does best—deceive. He tells the people that mother earth has designed the food chain and the cycle of life to keep things in motion perpetually. In the highly regarded Disney film, *The Lion King*, the story stresses this idea. The Bible has an entirely different story to tell. Adam's sin wrought ruin to creation. His sin passed both sin and death to all his posterity, but he did it to the other creatures as well.

Jesus' return, the resurrection, and the manifestation of the sons of God will bring deliverance to both us who have the Spirit of God and the created things experimentally. No more bloodshed. No more kill or be killed. The whole creation will be at rest. This will be the earth's great Sabbath. With the Lord Jesus Christ as king over all the earth, reigning with his saints in absolute righteousness, who would not look forward that day?

It is part of the hope that is laid before us in our Lord Jesus Christ. Blessed day!

**Hosea 2:18 (KJV)** *And in that day will I make a covenant for them with the beasts of the field, and with the fowls of heaven, and with the creeping things of the ground: and I will break the bow and the sword and the battle out of the earth, and will make them to lie down safely.*

This old preacher can hardly wait to see children play with lions, leopards and grizzly bears!

**Isaiah 11:6-8 (KJV)** The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; AND A LITTLE CHILD SHALL LEAD THEM. 7 And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together: and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. 8 And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice' den.