

Beauty

v1.2

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Beauty has been stolen.

I heard God whisper to me, “Beauty has been stolen. Mark beauty has been stolen and is being underestimated. What if in My world beauty and intelligence are regarded at the same level?”

I pondered again our western society and how it has been built on Greek and Roman societies & thinking, these civilisations valued **intelligence, reason and power**. Beauty became something to be plundered or seized, stolen, manipulated, used or devalued. Instead of beauty being valued for beauty, it was used to gain power and prestige. The end of the Roman civilisation saw major moral decline and even orgies, where the true value associated with beauty was lost and manipulated to feign power.

I do believe that this is also a result of male dominance, if beauty were valued on an equal scale with intelligence, strength and skill, would men lose some superiority? By devaluing it and placing more value on things that might be more traditionally male, it makes space for insecure dominance. We are supposed to get our self esteem, our “I’m OK” from knowing God, that is knowing how God sees us and thinks of us, how immense His Love is over us.

All this invited me to contemplate how Heaven saw beauty? What was the conversation over beauty there? What effect or value was assigned to it there? What was God’s original created purpose for it here on earth? How would it have been in the garden of Eden? In the garden it was everywhere and definitely a big part of the wealth and

value of the place. This is still the case with ‘dwelling places’ there is no doubt that in the ‘real estate’ world that there is value in beauty, yet here it is still something that can be manipulated to extract profit. If we allow only the \$ value of something to matter, it steals a lot of Heavens values. Integrity, honor, life, the very value of each individual and beauty becomes worth only the dollars that can be extracted by it.

I have been dreaming with God, about how He wants to and is currently revealing more and more of Heaven on earth. Like we pray in:

The Lord’s Prayer

"Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.

**Your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil." Matthew 6:9-13

Here we pray *Lord may your Kingdom and your will come here on earth as it is in Heaven*. This for me implies knowing something of Heavens culture so that we can be living that way ourselves, implementing this culture here on earth in our actions and values.

Sadly man and his management of our planet has lost a lot of what we were first given in Eden, many of the things that we now value and honour were not even present there; ie independence, money

and position. We had unhindered intimate connection with God, almost unlimited power, we were surrounded by awesome beauty and we had unprecedented freedom.

When we think of beauty in humans' maybe the first thing you think of is a beauty pageant? I did a little survey and found that words such as shallow, bimbo, tragic, fake and staged were some thoughts that first came to mind when people first thought of physical beauty in humans, I want to assure you that none of these words match what God has and wants us to understand of beauty here on Earth. It certainly isn't something to be embarrassed about.

Nature is often put forward as being beautiful and I want to suggest that God has left millions of glimpses of Himself and true beauty here for us to see. Romans 1¹⁹ *“For the truth about God is known to them instinctively. God has put this knowledge in their hearts.”* 20 *“From the time the world was created, people have seen the earth and sky and all that God made. They can clearly see his invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature. So they have no excuse whatsoever for not knowing God”.* I have had the privilege of doing a lot of travel and I can personally testify that there are many absolutely magnificent natural sights that have affected me profoundly that are still to be found in the world.

Just recently I took my son to the local swimming pool and there we met a family that was visiting Australia from Denmark. The eldest daughter of the guy that I met had a mark of beauty on her and a mark of the Lord (strong destiny & purpose). This is hard to explain as it is something that I just know when I see it (in the Spirit) rather than know what it is that I am picking up. But she was special and God has marked her out for a purpose, He has also marked her with beauty. She was only probably 7 years old, but these things were very evident in the spirit. Unfortunately in our

culture and society it is awkward to notice something like this let alone put it into a booklet as people might think that I am a bit weird or something. We have so perverted beauty that the only people who mention it are considered dubious or probably wanting something. I think especially amongst men it has become virtually unacceptable to acknowledge beauty in young people, this is sad as I believe beauty is a special and precious gift from God Himself. I told the Danish dad that there was a special ‘mark’ on his daughter, he smiled and said that he knew, he said it has always been there.

I believe that God is inviting us to begin to live a life where we bring the culture of Heaven to earth and we treat things such as beauty as they would be treated in Heaven and that is something very valuable and ‘beautiful’. When we see beauty we should appreciate it, honor it, treasure it, value it, protect it and see God in it.

Knowing that God has placed something there for a reason and as He has also placed intelligence and many other things in people, beauty is also to be valued and honoured.

*“And let the **beauty of the Lord** our God be upon us, And establish the work of our hands for us; Yes, establish the work of our hands.”* Psalm 90:17 NKJV

*“^{v6}**Honor and majesty are before Him; strength and beauty are in His sanctuary.**”^{v9}*Oh, worship the Lord in the **beauty of Holiness!** Tremble before Him all the earth.”* Psalm 96:6&9 NKJV*

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About the Author:

Mark Goatley is an apostolic missionary, as an Australian he has lived in Germany, Russia and the United States, as well as travelling to many other countries. Mark has been involved in pastoral work, he has been a member of Wycliffe Bible translators and The Summer Institute of Linguistics, now he along with his wife Helen are the founders of an international organisation All4Him the Tabernacle www.All4Him.org which has now overseen the establishment of 'Tabernacles' set apart places specifically for meeting with experiencing, worshipping and hearing from God in at least 5 nations. See www.All4him.org/Tabernacle