



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18

ANGELS FROM THE REALMS OF GLORY -  
STANZAS 1,4

Angels, from the realms of glory,  
wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
once you sang creation's story,  
now proclaim Messiah's birth:  
Come and worship, come and worship,  
worship Christ, the newborn king.

All creation, join in praising  
God, the Father, Spirit, Son,  
evermore your voices raising  
to the eternal Three in One.  
Come and worship, come and worship,  
worship Christ, the newborn king.

— Text: James Montgomery, 1771-1854, alt., sts. 1-3; Salisbury Hymn Book, 1857, st. 4

While I was on a plane heading to Atlanta, Georgia a few weeks ago, I was assigned what some people see as the best seat on the plane, and others (I would be in this category) see as the worst possible spot. You guessed it! It was the window seat. Though I was slightly annoyed with my seat, after opening up the window as the plane took off, I knew this seat divinely had my name on it. Shortly after the plane took off, I peaked out the window, and my eyes became captivated by the warm and gentle colors on the trees as I watched everything that was big become small.

When I read this hymn, I instantly thought of this moment, and asked myself if this is what the angels saw during their “flight o’er all the earth; (singing) creation’s story?” These lines coupled with my experience on the plane remind me of the importance in pausing to appreciate God’s creation. When God created the Heavens, the Earth, and all living creatures, God saw them as good. What does that mean for us? For us, it is a reminder that despite the challenges that we may face in our life, despite all of our imperfections, we can rest in knowing that we were gracefully marked as good at creation. We were marked as beautiful, we were marked as holy.

When we sing of creation, we remind ourselves of the truth that we are truly known by God. This all sounds great; but what about everything else going on in our lives, and in the world that feels chaotic? Maybe those are the moments when we must “proclaim [the] Messiah’s birth,” to remind us that through Him there is hope, there is justice, liberation, freedom, and restoration.

For that, let us “come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King.”

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