



Chronicles of Diversity

4 May 2005; Volume 7, Number 18

Chronicles of Diversity
Contact

Information:
©2005

*non-commercial education &
forwarding encouraged, all
other rights reserved*

*Jerry Bannon
Wonder Springs
7950 Seward Park Ave. S.
Seattle, Washington USA
98118
phone: 206.660.0697
email:
bannon@createleaders.org or
chronicles@createleaders.org*

*Please forward prayer requests
to: prayer@createleaders.org*

*Washington State Charity
Number: 7529*

*Visit our web site at:
www.createleaders.org
www.wondersprings.com*

*To subscribe to these free
weekly messages please send
us an email*

Metis Economics: Eclectic Flowers

Eclectic: selecting what seems best of various styles or ideas.

“April showers, bring May flowers.”

There is a reader board on a Grange hall I drive by on my way out to Reardan that says, “Easter showers, bring May flowers.” This thought probably fits better with this week’s theme. Farmers are out planting spring grain, when just a few weeks ago, the consensus was that because of the lack of rain, no one would be planting this spring, and the farmers would be lucky to get a crop with their winter wheat.

Isaiah, the Old Testament prophet has a few words to say about flowers and grass (wheat), “The grass withers, the flower fades, Because the breath of the LORD blows upon it; Surely the people *are* grass. The grass withers, the flower fades, But the word of our God stands forever.” (Isaiah 40:7,8)

This natural law and common grace application in the Bible

is well known. After the May flowers fade away, the hot winds of summer will soon complete the cycle of life. The fading flowers produce seeds as they wither away, their yearly part in creation’s grand revelation of God’s glory has been fulfilled.

Isaiah also determines that much of mankind’s life is like the grass of the field. A short burst of green life, followed by a time of producing grain in the case of Eastern Washington farmers, leading to the plants death, or the appearance of death in the case of perennial grasses.

The prophet faithfully gives proper context to the general common revelation of God in creation, and the eternal specific revelation that God gives us in His word. Being an Old Testament prophet however, Isaiah can only prophetically look ahead to the day when, because of the Word of God fulfilled in the person of Jesus Christ, some of the grass need not wither, nor some of the flowers need



not fade. Some people have been converted, or born again, as eclectic flowers and non withering grasses, while the world continues on as usual.

Eclectic flowers and grasses can eternally produce flowers and grain without withering and fading, for they are chosen by God to be His best. What a glorious concept, even if we don't fully understand. What preacher could not use this analogy to call us all to greater and greater things, for yourself, in the case of some sects of Christianity, or for the glory of God, in the case of other preachers.

I suppose there is merit in the latter, but what both miss in these exhortations is the context of the field. You are the eclectic flower, or the eclectic grass, it is all about you. You are so special. God sparsely planted the field, and the only seed that produces anything at all, is you. All the rest of the field he has weeded in summer fallow, until that day in heaven when our self-indulgence will disappear. Amen! And Hallelujah!

Look at the fields, they are ripe for conversion into eclectic plants. The gospel writers all talk about the grain harvest at the end of the age. Most of the time we use these words of Jesus, to exhort people to become involved in some worthy missions endeavor. What is still missing in this is the nature of the diversity of the living field. The forest, not just the trees.

Farmers in Eastern Washington plant a field of some variety of wheat or barley. In the Columbia Basin, you might add fields of corn, or hay, or mint, or potatoes. We call it a good thing. But in our simplistic cropping procedure, each plant is designed, (by us) to be the same and to produce the same fruit, with incredible reproducibility. That is not God's diversity definition, but ours.

We are continually trying to make everything (and everyone) consistent and the same, God is continually making everything and everyone different.

In the Book of Genesis there are 21 references to being fruitful and multiplying to fill the earth. All creation other than mankind doesn't seem to have a problem with that mandate from God. Only sinful man desires to

stay put and build monuments to himself. It got so bad that during the tower of Babel episode (Genesis 11), God had to confuse the languages of people to get them to move beyond the confines of the city on the plain in Shinar.

There are only two reasons why God would want people to fill the earth. One is that He is a strict authoritarian God who demands unreasonable obedience. The other is that He loves us so much that He desires us to get beyond our sinful human nature, and become the unique eternal personalities He created us to be.

We severely limit our growth by desiring to be planted in a flower bed of fading flowers, rather than in a diverse creation of eclectic eternal flowers, grasses, shrubs, and trees. By sharing His creation with diverse throngs of other living creatures, He specifically designed life to bring us pleasure and fulfillment, and to bring Him glory because of this creative experience. In other words, we limit ourselves by our insecurity. The Bible calls that desire for limits a lack of faith.

Evangelism in America believes that only the specific Revelation of the Bible is important in bringing sinners into relationship with God, when in fact that is the way we design our evangelism programs, not the way God created man. We were created first to understand His nature through creation and then understand the gospel through the Bible's applications of creation into the finished work of Jesus Christ. For the church to again be effective, the reformation required is not of formal doctrine, but to be reformed by the power of God's spoken word in creation.

It seems amusing when you hear the preacher speak of the antiquated agrarian nature of Bible times, because we have evolved to such a high level we can understand God by just reading and commentating on His written word. We can perfectly understand His nature, completely divorced from His world, however that arrogance is truly sanctimonious, if not utterly absurd.

God uses His creation to shape our communities. Worldly knowledge says we are shaped by our environment. Children of alcoholics are likely to become alcoholics etc.

That observation may qualify as science to man, but it is truly only simplistic observation. But God uses Montana to shape Montana people. Taken by extension, He uses the creation of the Red counties to shape the political climate of the United States.

Put more succinctly so that liberal, blue county, right coast, left coast, urbane urbans can understand, liberalism is a religion out of touch with created reality. Or put in a more conservative spin, you can take a preppie out of the Ivy League and move him to Texas, but that doesn't make him a true Texan. It might make him rich, it might even make him President, it might make him a born again evangelical Christian, but he still interprets the world through a paradigm that defines entrepreneurs in a blue county way, what a true Texan (or a red county person) would call corporate America and big business.

This week I am back in the land of the people of the tribe of the Decreased Horizons. In just a few weeks I had lost touch with just how awful the climate in Seattle can be. Cold, cloudy, rainy, just so that when it really rains you can feel the peace that comes when your vision is constrained by tiny droplets of drizzle.

To the east of the Cascade summit you enter the land of the tribe of the Swept Aways, or the Columbia River Basin. This includes those peoples all the way to the summit of the Rocky Mountains in western Montana. The Swept Aways, are divided into two sub-tribes. The Flooding Swept Aways of Eastern Washington and the Lake Swept Aways in the valleys of Northern Idaho and Montana. It is the land of the Lake Swept Aways that is now described by many authors as heaven on earth.

East of the Continental Divide you enter the Prairie Lands of the Big Sky's. In Big Sky tribal territories you have two sub-tribes also. The Short Grass Big Skies, and the Tall Grass Big Skies.

Further to the east you enter the tribal area of the North Woods. North Woods people have given us wild rice and Paul Bunyan. Paul never saw a tree he didn't think should be turned into something of utilitarian value. But he and

his blue ox were only created metaphors of the environment. An environment shaped by rainfall that allowed for massive forests.

I could go on and form tribal lands in the rest of North America and the world. The point is however, that each indigenous people group was created over time by its interactions with the local natural communities and its environmental limitations. The limiting or qualifying nature of each of these communities, is water. Too much or too little, determines how you shall live. Eventually, no matter your natural place of origin, you will take on the characteristics of where you were raised, or to where you will emigrate. It might not happen in your life, but it will happen in the lives of your children or grandchildren.

So this is the essence of the Phylogenesis series. God desires to make Eclectic Flowers throughout His garden, which we call creation or nature. The greater the diversity of those flowers, plants, and living species, the greater His glory, because broad diversity more fully reflects His infinite glory.

Human personalities have been given a choice, because they were created in the image of God, to become an eclectic flower of His grace, or to live a life of fading flowers and withering grass. Non-eclectics naturally become compost for other life, or to be burned as a source of light and energy.

The Bible gives all creation the mandate to be fruitful and multiply. Mankind, especially in our age has decided to pot themselves in overcrowded wastelands of human potential. Thereby limiting our eternal potential by self deification and arrogance. In this polluted pot we think we have security. This may seem true for a while, maybe even for decades or centuries, except when God decides to withhold His water supply, the flower will fade and the grass will wither more quickly in pots than it will in the natural ground.

I came back to Seattle being gone for almost twice as long as I had envisioned. I fully expected that my potted plants would have expired for lack of water. To my amazement they had not withered nor faded and looked as if they were just doing fine. The application is the grace of God had rained on them to keep them alive in my absence.

Seattle is a city, as are all cities, where we expect it to always rain at the proper time and in the proper amounts to keep our enterprise opportunities from fading, withering, dying, or even washing away. Isaiah, speaking about the natural community as well as the individual plant, uses the analogy that eternal prosperity isn't natural. The only exception is for eclectic flowers.

But prudent faith says next time I leave to head east to the land of the Swept Aways, I should either hook up something to automatically water my plants, or take them with me, transplant them to a place in the natural ground, or let them die in their restrictive pots. Those are choices we each have to make daily with our own lives.

Some might say that as long as the sun rises and the rain falls, God will continue to bless our activities with economic and natural abundance. The land of the northern part of the United States was completely restructured by ice and flooding as our most recent major geological event. In the book I am now reading describing these events, the word catastrophic, really is not part of the vocabulary of most geologists, nor any other human group for that matter.

But following the Genesis flood, if you believe in the literal Bible presentation, or even 10,000 - 15,000 years ago in geologic time, these catastrophic events did happen. I personally believe that the Genesis flood much better fits the scientific facts, but probably not in Bishop Usher's time chronology.

The point is however, that creation does, has, and will always shape man's destiny on this earth. Noah and his family were chosen by God to be eclectic flowers for a new world order. All fading flowers and withering grasses were swept away to refurbish life on earth after corrupt mankind was killed by the flood. Be fruitful and multiply means more than just a change of nature, it means a change of life. Eclectic flowers are chosen to live the eternal life in the dying present, but those flowers also must make the choice to live as such, or to be mistaken for the fading and the passing.

You cannot get all your subsistence, substance, and religion from man's world and expect to produce eternal eclectic flowers. You must be in touch with God's creation as well as the Bible to have access to those wonder springs. For it is by drinking that living water that gives you God's perspective of His unlimited nature, best expressed in the continuing phylogenesis of all creation.

Other articles in this Phylogenesis Series:

Liquidity with purpose; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2004pdffiles/liquidity9-29-4.pdf>

Bottled Liquidity; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2004pdffiles/bortleliquid10-6-4.pdf>

Fakin it; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2004pdffiles/fakinit10-13-4.pdf>

Natural Energetics; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2004pdffiles/natureenergy10-20-4.pdf>

Political Energetics; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2004pdffiles/poleenergy10-27-4.pdf>

Reasoned Phylongeny; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2004pdffiles/reasonphylogd11-3-4.pdf>

Sasquatches & Polar Bears; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2004pdffiles/sasbears11-10-4.pdf>

51-48 gas; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2004pdffiles/51-48gas11-17-4.pdf>

Show me; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2004pdffiles/showme11-24-4.pdf>

A cheap plot; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2004pdffiles/acheapplot12-1-4.pdf>

Cheesy Cows; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2004pdffiles/chessycows12-8-4.pdf>

Raurbs versus Apgars; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2004pdffiles/raurbapgars12-15-4.pdf>

Metis; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2005pdffiles/metis12-29-4.pdf>

The Complete (Natural) Metis; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2005pdffiles/completemetis1-5-5.pdf>

Metis Economics; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2005pdffiles/metisecon1-12-5.pdf>

Metis Economics, People; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2005pdffiles/metispeople1-19-5.pdf>

Metis Economics, Land; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2005pdffiles/metisland1-26-5.pdf>

Metis Economics, Water; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2005pdffiles/metiswater2-2-5.pdf>

Metis Economics, Faith; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2005pdffiles/metisfaith2-9-5.pdf>

Metis Economics, Eternity; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2005pdffiles/metiseternity2-23-5.pdf>

Metis Economics, Rendezvous; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2005pdffiles/metisrendezvous3-2-5.pdf>

Metis Economics, Communion; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2005pdffiles/metiscommunion3-9-5.pdf>

Metis Economics, Rest; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2005pdffiles/metisrest3-16-5.pdf>

Metis Economics, Easter Eats; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2005pdffiles/metiseastereats3-23-5.pdf>

Metis Economics: Time to lead; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2005pdffiles/metisleadtime3-30-5.pdf>

Metis Economics: What did Jesus do?; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2005pdffiles/metiswdjd4-6-5.pdf>

Metis Economics: Unconscious conscience; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2005pdffiles/metisunconscience4-13-5.pdf>

Metis Economics: Dog Tales; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2005pdffiles/metisdogtales4-20-5.pdf>

Metis Economics: Urbane Urban; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2005pdffiles/metisurbaneurban4-27-5.pdf>