



## Saint Quotes on Creation

**St. Basil (329-379)** “I want creation to penetrate you with so much admiration that wherever you go, the least plant may bring you clear remembrance of the Creator. A single plant, a blade of grass, or one speck of dust is sufficient to occupy all your intelligence in beholding the art with which it has been made.”

**St. John Chrysostom (347-470)** “From the creation, learn to admire the Lord! Indeed the magnitude and beauty of creation display a God who is the artificer of the universe. He has made the mode of creation to be our best teacher.”

**St. Augustine (354-430)** “Some people, to discover God, read books. But there is a great book: the very appearance of created things. Look above you! Look below you! Note it. Read it. God, whom you want to discover, never wrote that book with ink. Instead, He set before your eyes the things that He had made. Can you ask for a louder voice than that?”

**St. Maximus the Confessor (580-662)** “Creation is a bible whose letters and syllables are the particular aspects of all creatures and whose words are the more universal aspects of creation.”

**St. John of Damascus (675-749)** “The whole earth is a living icon of the face of God.”

**St. Bernard of Clairvaux (1090-1153)** “Believe one who knows: You will find something greater in woods than in the books. Trees and stones will teach you that which you can never learn from masters.”

**St. Bonaventure (1217 - 1274)** “He who is not illuminated by such great splendor of created things, is blind; he who is not awoken by such great clamor is deaf; he who does not praise God because of all these effects is dumb; he who does not note the first principle from such great signs is foolish. Open your eyes, therefore, prick your spiritual ears, open your lips and apply your heart, that you may see, hear, praise, love and worship, glorify and honor your God.”

**St. Theresa of Avila (1515-1582)** “It helped me to look at fields, or water, or flowers. In these things, I found a remembrance of the Creator. I mean that they awakened and recollected me and served as a book.”

**St. John of the Cross (1542-1591)** “God passes through the thicket of the world, and wherever His glance falls He turns all things to beauty.”

**St. John Paul II (1920-2005)** “The aesthetic value of creation cannot be overlooked. Our very contact with nature has a deep restorative power; contemplation of its magnificence imparts peace and serenity. The Bible speaks again and again of the goodness and beauty of creation, which is called to glorify God.”

*List developed by the Care for Creation Committee of the Archdiocese of Washington*