

THE MYSTERY OF BEAUTY

We experience beauty through our 5 _____ + our minds, but we cannot directly comprehend God's beauty
Beauty is both a gift & a _____ —why? No matter how wonderful the beauty it never satisfies for long—why?

I. THE MYSTERY OF BEAUTY

A. All _____ Is a Reflection of the Beauty of God

- 1) God is the Source and _____ of all beauty; just as yardstick is both a yard & measures a yard
- 2) Whether beauty in its grandest forms or small beauties, it all speaks of _____ beyond itself

B. All Beauty Is Intended to Create a _____ for God

- 1) Beauty stops us & causes us to _____ ; it is both a gift & a map to be followed back to the Source
- 2) When beauty causes us to want us to part of it, what we are actually feeling is a desire to know _____

C. Beauty Awakens Memories of What We Were _____ For

- 1) We were created for a place where _____ filled all 5 senses & we knew directly the beauty of God
- 2) Sin cut us off from that place, but its memory is written in our DNA and _____ calls up its memory

II. 3 MISTAKEN RESPONSES TO THIS MYSTERY

A. _____

- 1) We enjoy the beauty, but ignore the _____; we enjoy the gift, but give no thought to the Giver
- 2) Most human beings respond to beauty like 2-year-olds unwrapping gifts on _____ morning

B. _____

- 1) When we don't understand that beauty's purpose, it is easy for beauty to become a substitute _____
- 2) But idols cannot _____; they are "vanities" or nothings—broken cisterns that can hold no water
- 3) When human beings make any kind of beauty into their idol they will surely experience _____

C. _____

- 1) The cycle of craving one experience of beauty after another can explain how addiction _____
- 2) However serious addiction maybe, what addicts really seek can be found only in the beauty of _____

III. 3 APPROPRIATE RESPONSES TO BEAUTY

A. _____

Every experience of beauty ought to cause us to _____ God for the gifts that He has given us

B. _____

- 1) It is easy to figure out what some types of beauty tell us about God—e.g. sky, sea, _____
- 2) In other cases, we must work from the _____ back to beauty to worship as the proper method

C. _____

- 1) God's glory is simply God's beauty _____; with that being the case, HOW do we glorify God?
 - a) Not by simply _____ His glory
 - b) Not by simply _____ to our understanding of His glory
- 2) We glorify God when His beauty causes us to passionately _____ and delight in God Himself
 - a) The passionate enjoyment of God will also be our greatest _____ --for this we were created
 - b) We must take all beauty personally: it must turn our hearts to the person of _____ to enjoy Him!