

Plants & Animals

1

**Daniel 3**  
Bless the Lord, all you works of the Lord.  
Praise and exalt him above all forever.  
Angels of the Lord, bless the Lord.  
You heavens, bless the Lord.  
All you waters above the heavens, bless the Lord.  
All you hosts of the Lord, bless the Lord.  
Sun and moon, bless the Lord.  
Stars of heaven, bless the Lord.  
Every shower and dew, bless the Lord.  
All you winds, bless the Lord.  
Fire and heat, bless the Lord.  
Cold and chill, bless the Lord.  
Dew and rain, bless the Lord.  
Frost and chill, bless the Lord.  
Ice and snow, bless the Lord.  
Nights and days, bless the Lord.  
Light and darkness, bless the Lord.  
Lightnings and clouds, bless the Lord.  
Let the earth bless the Lord.

2

Praise and exalt him above all forever.  
Mountains and hills, bless the Lord.  
Everything growing from the earth, bless the Lord.  
You springs, bless the Lord.  
Seas and rivers, bless the Lord.  
You dolphins and all water creatures, bless the Lord.  
All you birds of the air, bless the Lord.  
All you beasts, wild and tame, bless the Lord.  
You sons of men, bless the Lord.  
O Israel, bless the Lord.  
Praise and exalt him above all forever.  
Priests of the Lord, bless the Lord.  
Servants of the Lord, bless the Lord.  
Spirits and souls of the just, bless the Lord.  
Holy men of humble heart, bless the Lord.  
Hananiah, Azariah, Mishael, bless the Lord.  
Praise and exalt him above all forever.  
Let us bless the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.  
Let us praise and exalt him above all forever.  
Blessed are you, Lord, in the firmament of heaven.  
Praiseworthy and glorious and exalted above all forever.

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The world was made for the glory of God.

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Each creature possesses its own particular goodness and perfection.

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God wills the interdependence of creatures.

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Through its order and harmony, the beauty of the universe reflects the beauty of God Himself.

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For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. Ever since the creation of the world His invisible nature, namely, His eternal power and deity, has been clearly perceived in the things that have been made. (Romans 1:19-20)

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There is a *solidarity among all creatures* arising from the fact that all have the same Creator and are all ordered to His glory.

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God is intimately present to each being.

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Do Plants and Animals Have Souls?  
A Philosophical Understanding

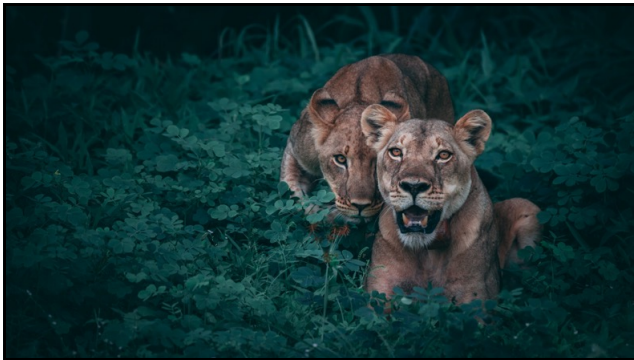
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Lifeless Beings	Plants & Trees	Animals	Human Beings
No Soul	Vegetative Soul	Sensitive Soul	Rational Soul
Cannot move themselves; can only be moved from something outside of itself	Nutrition, Growth, Generation	Vegetative Soul +plus+ Sensation, Appetite, Feeling, & Locomotion	Sensitive Soul +plus+ Intellect & Will
	Purely material	Purely material	Immaterial/Spiritual

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Human's Relationship to Animals

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Two Extremes

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Humans may use animals *within reasonable limits.*

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Animals should be respected because each contains the "imprint of the Creator."

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God created animals and humans to live in harmony.

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Animals are God's creatures. It is our duty to treat them with love and kindness.

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One can love animals, but one should not direct to them the affection due only to persons.

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Catholic Blessing of Animals

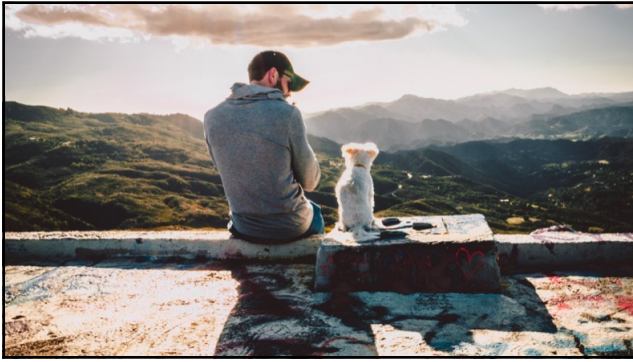
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