

This is the Eagle Nebula's Pillars of Creation which is 7000 light years away from earth.



I have always been fascinated by the stars, the planets and space - as vast as it is. So, when trawling through BBC iPlayer to find something worth spending my time watching, I was pleased to come across Horizon and a programme about 'Hubble'.

'Hubble' is NASA's space telescope and this year is its 30th birthday. So, to celebrate that, this particular programme was produced.

This telescope far above the earth probes space and sends back some amazing and awesome pictures of what's out there in the cosmos. If you put 'Hubble' into your search engine (if of course you have a computer!) you will be able to see what I mean.

When reflecting on those quite beautiful pictures, and thinking of the fact that they're hundreds and thousands of light years away from our small planet, how awesome is it that we, each and every one of us are, *in this* moment of time; *here and now* alive on our small planet called earth which is part of the vastness we call Heaven. I think it wonderful that we're here today - and not hundreds of years ago - so that we, unlike Galileo in his time, have a clearer glimpse of the expanse of the Heavens.

Have you ever given serious thought to the fact that we have a God who put everything in its place? If you regard what I'm saying about 'everything', like me, you may realise therefore that our God is bigger and more vast than our finite minds can even think or imagine. No wonder God said to Moses just tell Pharaoh: *'I AM has sent me to you.'* (Exo.3:14) To my mind, those two words: *'I AM'* cover just about everything to infinity!

Our Psalmists have much to say about the glories of God's work. In particular Psalm 8:3-4 says: *'When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established; what are human beings that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them?'* This Psalmist is quite obviously in awe of what God has created and that we, as human beings are, as the next verses put it: *'...made a little lower than God, and crowned with glory and honour. You have given them dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet...'* (Psa.8:5-6)

Therefore, even if our lives are difficult at the moment, if we compare that to the vastness of time and space around us.....? What is that saying to you today? Scripture tells us: *'For nothing will be impossible with God'* (Luke 1:37) and it's in this God we put our trust; this God who holds all things in His infinite care.

Our Creator God also charged us with the care of this beautiful world and those who live in it - in whatever way we're able to do that.

If you can, take a look at the wonder and beauty of the pictures from 'Hubble' and try to put our world into perspective of what you see and realise that we too are a part of the beauty that is God's cosmos. Is your God big enough?

'O LORD, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!' (Psa.8:9)

May God continue to bless you and keep you safe.

Rev'd Lesley