



Listening

Birds of the air apprise, beasts of the forest advise,
 Reptiles of the swamp tell, fish of the sea enlighten,
 Our very natures are being impaired,
 The life-breath of all mankind.



Air is tainted, forests decimated,
 Swamps drained, waters polluted,
 How much longer
 Will this earth be able to take us?



Are these outward manifestations reflections
 Of our inner selves?

What will our temples be fit for if we continue
 Breathing, eating, drinking, without understanding
 The disorders of our very own making?



+ We have probed the earth, excavated it, burned it, ripped things from it, buried things in it, chopped down its forests, leveled its hills, muddied its waters, and dirtied its air. That does not fit my definition of a good tenant. If we were here on a month-to-month basis, we would have been evicted long ago. -Rose Bird, Chief Justice of California Supreme Court (2 Nov 1936-1999)

+ The new warming study published in the journal Nature found “more than twice the rates of long-term warming estimates from the 1960s and ’70s to the present,” adding that if these rates are validated by further studies, “it means the rate of warming and the sensitivity of the Earth’s system to greenhouse gases is at the upper end.” He said that if scientists have underestimated the amount of heat taken up by the oceans, “it will mean we need to go back to the drawing board” on the aggressiveness of mitigation actions the world needs to take promptly to limit future warming.

+ This year’s World Wildlife Report found that, on average, populations of mammals, birds, fish reptiles and amphibians have declined by 60 percent from 1970 to 2014. And humans are largely to blame. The top threats to wild animals including habitat loss and degradation, climate change, overfishing and overhunting, according to the report.

Contrary to the pollution, we, as earth’s caretakers have fashioned,
 Paul of the Cross, 18th Century Saint and Mystic, reminds us of the
 natural beauty that God created for us as he experienced it:

“ Let everything in creation draw you to God. Refresh your mind with some innocent recreation and needful rest, if it were only to saunter through the garden or the fields, listening to the sermon preached by the flowers, the trees, the meadows, the sun, the sky, and the whole universe. You will find that they exhort you to love and praise God; that they excite you to extol the greatness of the Sovereign Architect Who has given them their being.”



<https://melkplace.com>