

Felix Mendelssohn



Fingal's Cave

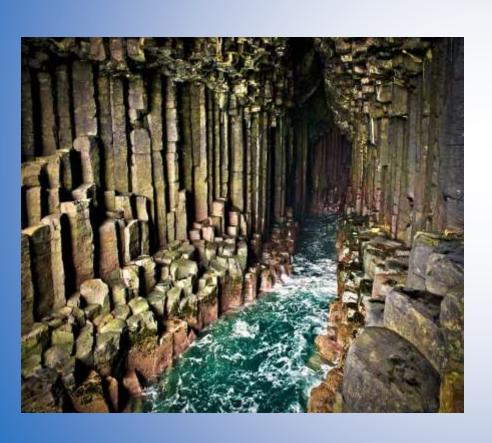


Fingal's Cave



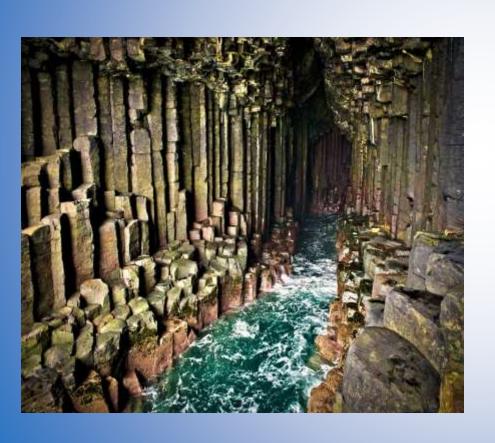
Fingal's Cave

## **Fingal's Cave**



"One of the most extraordinary places I ever beheld. It exceeded, in my mind every description I had heard of it. Composed entirely of basaltic pillars as high as the roof of a cathedral, and running deep into the rock..."

## **Fingal's Cave**



"...eternally swept by a deep and swelling sea, and paved, as it were, with ruddy marble.

...it baffles all description."

- Sir Walter Scott

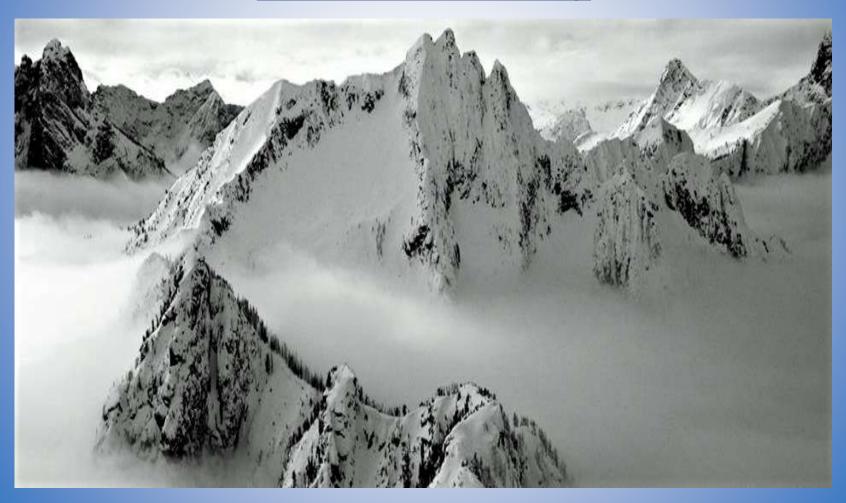


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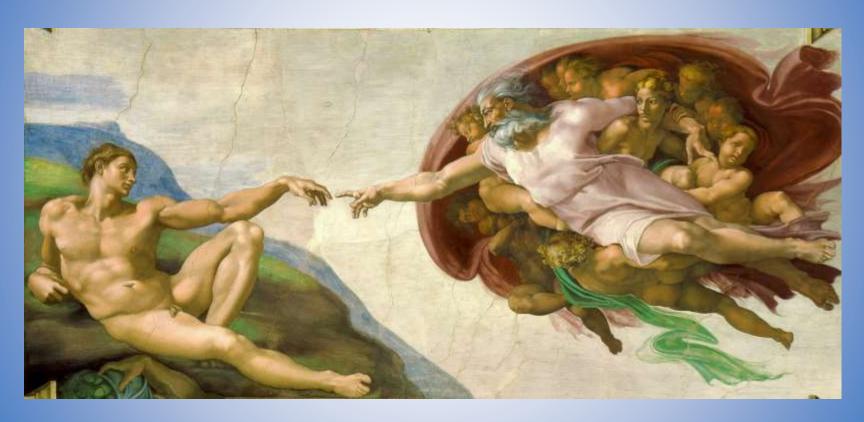


# In the Shadow of the Almighty The Power of Beauty



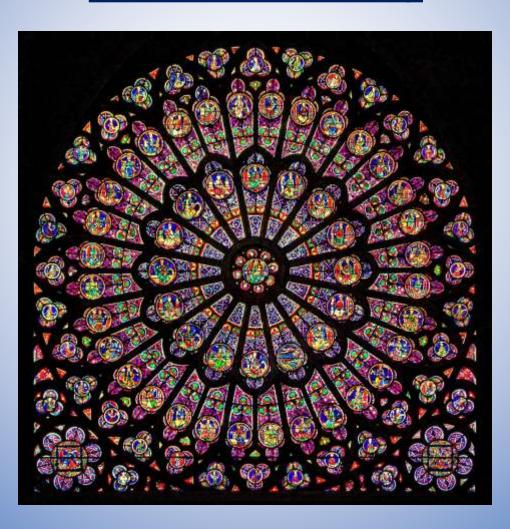




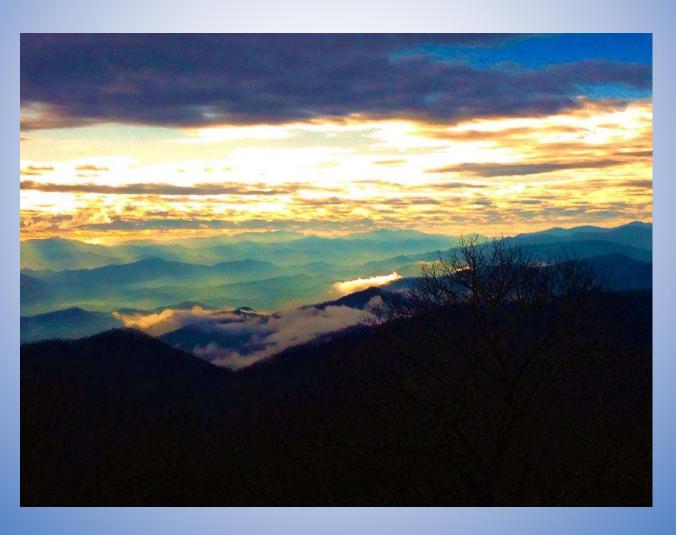




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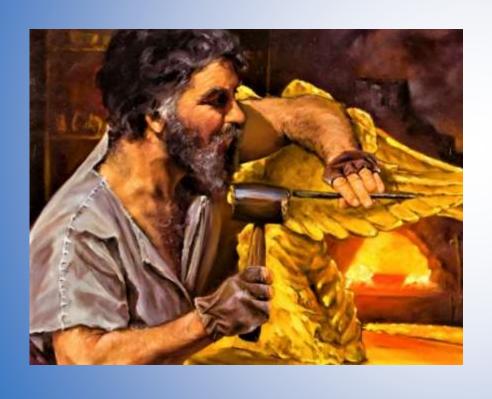




#### God's Artist: Bezalel

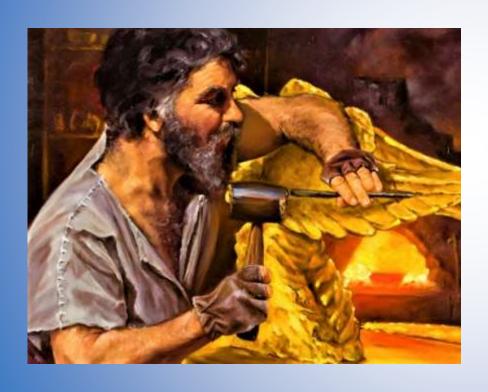


#### **God's Artist: Bezalel**



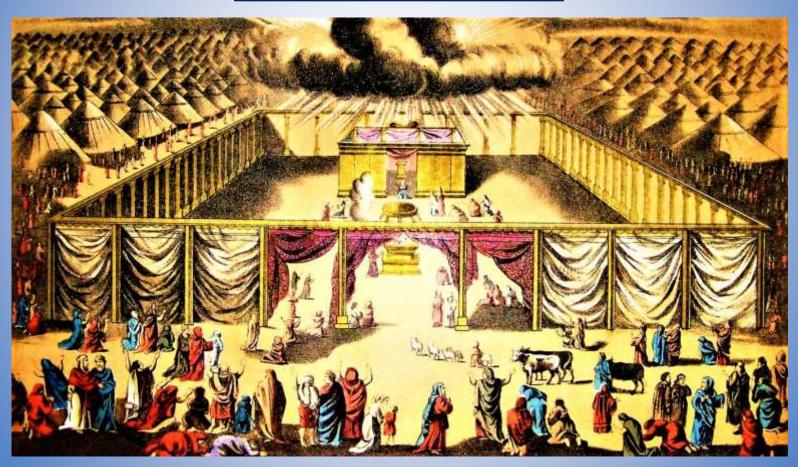
"I have called by name Bezalel...of the tribe of Judah, and I have filled him with the Spirit of God, with ability and intelligence, with knowledge and all craftsmanship..." (Exodus 31:2-6)

#### **God's Artist: Bezalel**



"To devise artistic designs, to work in gold, silver, and bronze, in cutting stones for setting, and in carving wood, to work in every craft. (Exodus 31:2-6)

#### God's Artist: Bezalel



## God's Artist: Bezalel



#### **Bezalel** = "In the Shadow of God"



"He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say to the LORD, 'My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust."

(Psalm 91:1-2)

#### **Self-focused Beauty**

"Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised." (Proverbs 31:30)

"All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field...Surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever." (Isaiah 40:6-8)

## **God-focused Beauty**

"Splendor and majesty are before him; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary." (Psalm 96:6)

"In that day the LORD of hosts will be a crown of glory, and a diadem of beauty, to the remnant of his people." (Isaiah 28:5)

#### **God-focused Beauty**

"One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in his temple." (Psalm 27:4)

## **God-focused Beauty**

Argument from Design: When we look at the complexity of the world, i.e., DNA, the stars, the tides, it's natural to seek a cause, or a designer behind it.

Argument from Beauty: When we experience the breathtaking beauty of nature and art, shouldn't this point to a transcendent artist or creative agent—an ultimate Creator?

## **God-focused Beauty**

"Although the Bible does not state it explicitly, it is a fair inference that experiences of earthly beauty awaken a longing for a beauty that is more permanent and transcendent than anything this life can give.

A longing for the beauty of God."

- Leland Ryken

## **God-focused Beauty**

"[God] has made everything beautiful in its time. Also, he has put eternity into man's heart so that he cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end." (Ecclesiastes 3:11)

"The pursuit of truth and beauty is a sphere of activity in which we are permitted to remain children all our lives."

- Albert Einstein

## **God-focused Beauty**



## **God-focused Beauty**

"O LORD my God, you are very great! You are clothed with splendor and majesty, covering yourself with light as with a garment, stretching out the heavens like a tent. He lays the beams of his chambers on the waters; he makes the clouds his chariot; he rides on the wings of the wind; he makes his messengers winds, his ministers a flaming fire. He set the earth on its foundations, so that it should never be moved." (Psalm 104:1-5)

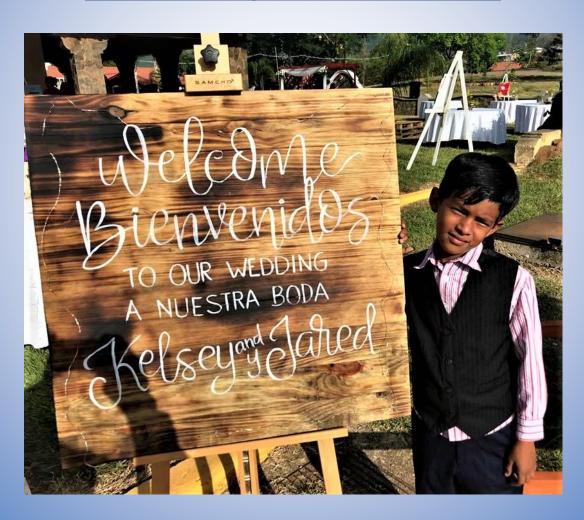


The Beauty of Connection

# In the Shadow of the Almighty The Beauty of Connection



## **The Beauty of Connection**







# In the Shadow of the Almighty The Beauty of Connection











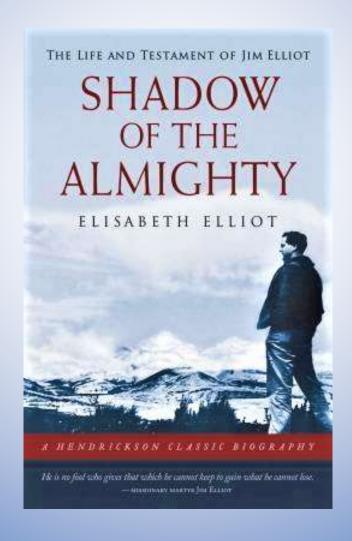




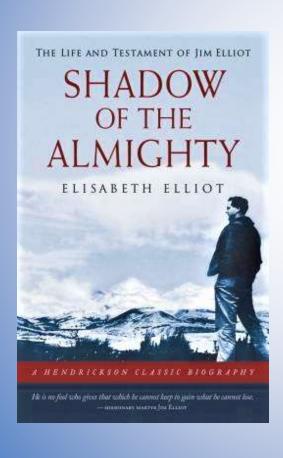
#### **How Do We Adorn Ourselves?**



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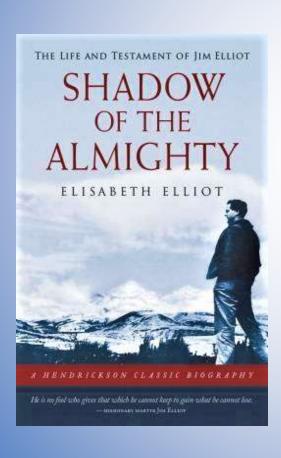
#### **How Do We Adorn Ourselves?**



"Lord make my way prosperous, not that I achieve high station, but that my life may be an exhibit to the value of knowing God."

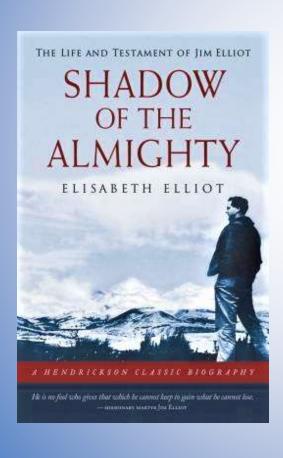
- Jim Elliot

#### **How Do We Adorn Ourselves?**



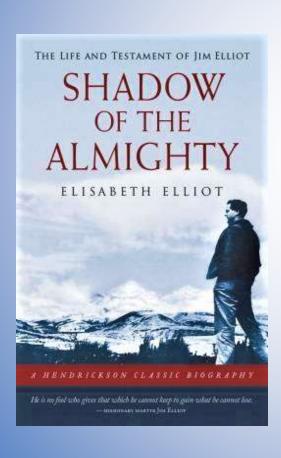
"How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, 'Your God reigns.'" (Isaiah 52:7)

#### **How Do We Adorn Ourselves?**



"Do not let your adorning be external —the braiding of hair and the putting on of gold jewelry, or the clothing you wear..." (1 Peter 3:3-4)

#### **How Do We Adorn Ourselves?**



"But let your adorning be the hidden person of the heart with the imperishable beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which in God's sight is very precious."

(1 Peter 3:3-4)

