

December 2nd

Isaiah 11:1-10

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Nature's Pulpit

The passage of Isaiah I've based this meditation upon talks about how trees and the Holy Spirit go hand in hand. Trees are a very important part of Christian Faith. I am becoming a grandmother in April 2023; I am very excited. Now I wonder if we as a people of God will promote caring for God's creation. Trees give us oxygen to breath and take away carbon dioxide out of the air. We are losing trees by deforestation at a rapid amount and failing to replace them when gone. A quote by Betsy Painter's book, *A Christians Guide to Planet Earth*:

"Humans have wiped out more than 30 percent of all the planet's forests since postindustrial times, and we've degraded and fragmented swaths of what's left."

Trees are an important part to cultivating Faith and The Holy Spirit: The Bible references a variety of life-giving trees: almond, apple, chestnut, cedar, myrtle, oil, sycamore, mustard, and fig. God made them for provide for creation forever, not to be destroyed for short-sighted goals.

Trees in the Bible offer important lessons. In Genesis with Adam and Eve, apple picking started one of the most recognized biblical lessons. In Matthew 13:23 Jesus compared the Kingdom of God to a tree. Spreading out its considerable branches to care for his creation. Jesus's ministry began with trees and ended with trees. Take a seat and enjoy the service from nature's pulpit, let the Holy Spirit flow through you.

Precious Jesus, Help us to remember your ministry began and ended with a tree. Help us remember to treasure trees for future generations. Help us to always remember nature's pulpit.