

December 6th

Isaiah 35:1-10

Maureen Wise

God's Transformative Power

This Christmas season, let's consider transformation. God can transform hearts, man-made materials, and creation itself. Of course he can, God is all-powerful and as the creator, can change his creation how he sees fit. This isn't anything new. Jesus turned water to wine and healed the sick. But on a more personal level, God can help us transform our own minds and our own land and the minds and lands of those around us. He can transform negative mindsets on caring for creation. If he wanted, God could halt climate change. But I think he wants us to do the work for him.

These verses in Isaiah speak of God coming to save us, to bring recompense for his people. Once he has done so, both people and their land will be transformed. The mute will sing praises and the desert will host new streams. God's love and power have this sort of transformative effect. Let heaven and nature sing the praises of our God Most High!

Climate change is bleak. It's scary to think about the effects that people have had on the planet and the major work we must do (and work that must do *together!*) to both mitigate the effects and reduce the causes. When Jesus came to Earth as a baby that first Christmas, he came to transform the world and he most certainly did. God's power is infinite and we should trust that God can help us deal with climate change.

Prayer

Thank you, Lord, for your power and for your ability to change people and creation itself. Direct us to do your work for the Earth and its people that you created.

Action Item

In this season of transformation, consider who you can pray for to help change their creation care and climate change negative mindsets. Listen to God and how you can be used to plant seeds of creation care in those around you.