



We are all familiar with the firefly that delights us with its display of bioluminescence. It is a wonder of nature for which we give praise to God:

“Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.” – Rev. 4:11

On a recent vacation at Blue Tears Island (Pulau Sembilan in Perak), I realised that the firefly is not the only living thing that has bioluminescent properties. Blue Tears – tiny phytoplankton (0.2mm – 2mm in size) living in abundance on the seabed – also give out light naturally.

We travelled by boat to the destination where the blue tears lay in the quiet darkness of the night. The boat assistant leaned over the side of the boat to scoop up the blue tears for us to see. They are called “blue tears” or “blue sand” – because the dots of blue look like transparent teardrops and feel like sand to the touch.



The picture here of the blue tears is as best as a picture can show of the surreal beauty of the bright light energy that the phytoplankton exudes with the energy of seawater.

Our vacation also brought us to a beach (Sky Mirror Island) which we had to wade briefly through seawater to reach, after a half-hour boat ride.

The sandbar appears at low tide for only a few hours per day, at which time the calm surface of shallow water is like a perfect mirror reflecting the azure blue sky and providing brilliant photography opportunities. After the fun moments of posing for photographs, we took home unforgettable memories to reflect on the moments of enjoyment we had of nature's beauty before the tide came in to drown the sand.



"The heavens are yours, and yours also the earth; you founded the world and all that is in it." – Ps 89:11



As we bask in the enjoyment of the intricate beauty of God's creation, we behold the glory of God!

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