

# Listen ... stop and consider God's Wonders

*(Ref. Job 37:14-16)*



A brother-in-Christ sent me a video of a Mandarin duck, a flamboyant native of China and Japan which was stealing the show in Gotham Central Park. With delight, he exclaimed, "God is great! Created it with such beautiful colours."



The next day, another brother sent me the photo of a cactus in the desert with excitement: "Wow, blooming also. Won't you love it?"

Oh sure, I love it. And I love the Mandarin duck too!

Now, I have my question: In our busy life, do we ever pause to God's wonders?

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. He created all the colours and set them as a rainbow in the clouds.



Martin Cheah was enthusiastic to share a photo of the rainbow that appeared above Tiger Brewery. Perhaps, the reason for his enthusiasm (and it should be ours too) is that the rainbow reminds us of the everlasting covenant of grace between God

and all life on the earth. (Gen 9:13-17)

We know that life cannot exist without water and air. If there are water and air but no colours, then there would be no light also. Life wouldn't exist in such a void. Recall that when the earth was formless and empty, and darkness was over the surface of the deep, God created light (colours) before he brought life into existence. (Gen 1) Hence, it may be correct to say that life cannot exist without water, air and colours. Students of science know that water ( $H_2O$ ) and air (mixture of  $O_2$ ,  $N_2$ , etc.) are chemicals (with chemical names or molecular

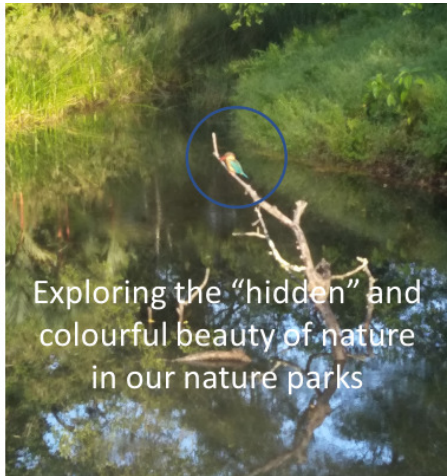
formulas), but they usually neglect observing that colour is also ubiquitous in chemistry.

When we look at God's creation, there are 3 aspects to contemplate: the obvious, the obscure, and the invisible.

It is obvious that life cannot exist without water and air, but it is obscure to us that colours are also essential for life.

It is obvious to us that plant and animal lives thrive in visible abundance of life-giving water, but it escapes our thought that **thorn and cactus can also become an oasis.** (Ps 68:9 MSG)

It is obvious to us the easily visible works of the LORD (Ps 104:24-25; Isa 43:20), but we are less attentive to God's invisible qualities – his eternal power and divine nature – that have been clearly seen from His creation. (Rom 1:20)  
It is obvious to us the usefulness of tangible things that God created, but it is obscure to our mind that beauty in itself is also God's creation for His own pleasure and for man's enjoyment.



Let us admire the beauty of the Mandarin duck's plumage, marvel at the blooming cactus in the desert, grasp the deep covenantal message of the rainbow that God set in the sky and cherish the beauty of the life-giving colours in our nature parks.

Listen ... stop and consider God's wonders. (Job 37:14-16)

*John Lee*