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# My Beloved Youth,

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The Almighty God

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**Mission Statement**

We, the magazine staff, have a mission regarding you, the reader: to encourage you on your Christian walk and to strengthen you through articles, answers and more about God's very special plan for you.

**Material Submission**

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This issue of the Mighty Arrows addresses the perfect plan of creation whose inception was of the perfect Creator, the orderly creation itself, and what the implications of the creation signify for each of us today.

First ask yourself...

*Where were you when I laid the earth's foundation? Tell me, if you understand. Who marked off its dimensions? Surely you know! Who stretched a measuring line across it? On what were its footings set, or who laid its cornerstone—while the morning stars sang together and all the angels shouted for joy? Who shut up the sea behind closed doors when it burst forth from the womb, when I made the clouds its garment and wrapped it in thick darkness, when I fixed limits for it and set its doors and bars in place, when I said, "This far you may come and no farther; here is where your proud waves halt?" Have you ever given orders to the morning, or shown down its place? (Job 38:4-12)*

We are being told to walk with God through the visual and sound effects of the Creation. Through the earth's orderly process of evolving and boundary immersion we begin to understand our Creator and his impact upon us all.

Second consider...

*"Do you know when the mountains goats give birth?... Do you count the months they bear? Do you know the time they give birth?" (Job 39:1-2)*

We are being told through creation to prepare for the Second Coming, the eternal life with the Lord and it is made plain that we do not know its exact time of happening. Throughout the postulated time of the highly anticipated event occurring in childbirth or in the anticipation of eternal life, we are given time to prepare for its arrival. Throughout the life span, we are given many opportunities to wait, to anticipate, to feel relief and/or satisfaction with the waiting period and preparation. It is always an orderly process as the Creation itself was and continues to evolve season to season.

Third contemplate on...

*"Take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world..." (Matthew 25:34) Lactanius (c. 304) said, "When all things had been settled with a wonderful arrangement, He determined to prepare for Himself an eternal kingdom and to create innumerable souls, on whom He might bestow immortality. ..."*

Anticipating the Kingdom of God, eternal life, proves to give us the valuable time necessary to prepare and secure it, through living a Godly life and the through the example in the Garden of Eden and the forbidden fruits. What are your preparations—I pray they are not alcohol and drugs, instant gratification, lottery, popularity at any cost, deceit and lying to parents, skipping confession for a movie theater? Are these preparations or forbidden fruits? Take note of your preparations and secure a place accordingly in the Kingdom of Heaven.

Glory be to the Creator NOW and FOREVER and unto the ages of ALL ages, Amen.

Bishop Youssef,

Bishop, Coptic Orthodox Diocese of the United States