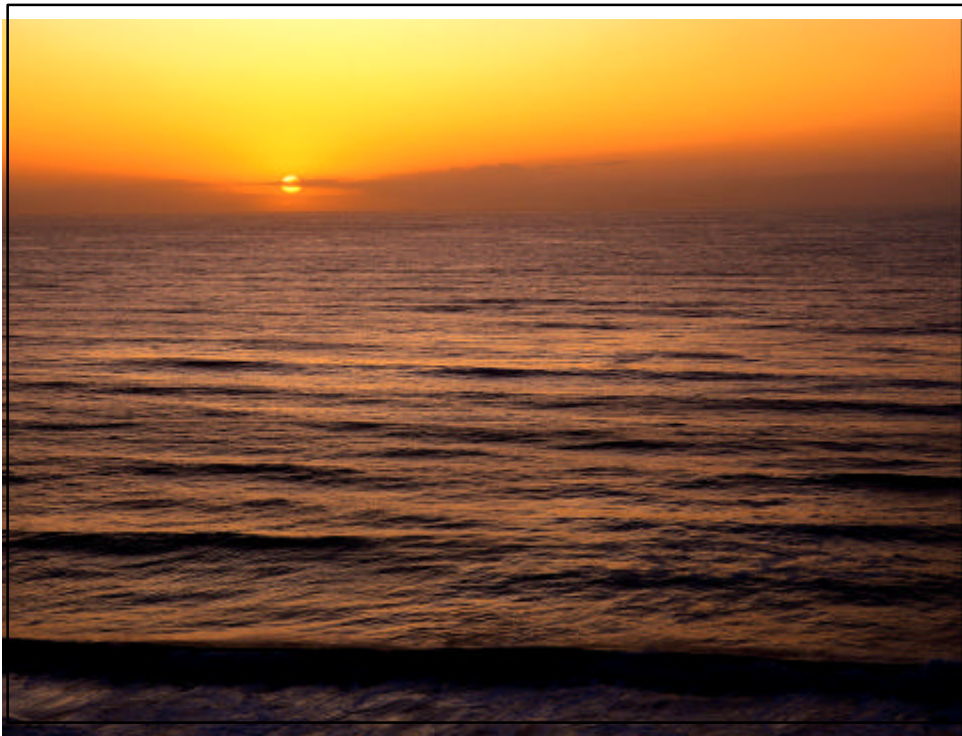


**Science, Faith and Global Warming:
Arising to the Challenge**



**IEF and BASED-UK joint conference
Balliol College, Oxford, England
15-17 September 2006**



"Say: Nature in its essence is the embodiment of My Name, the Maker, Creator.

Its manifestations are diversified by varying causes, and in this diversity there are signs for men of discernment.

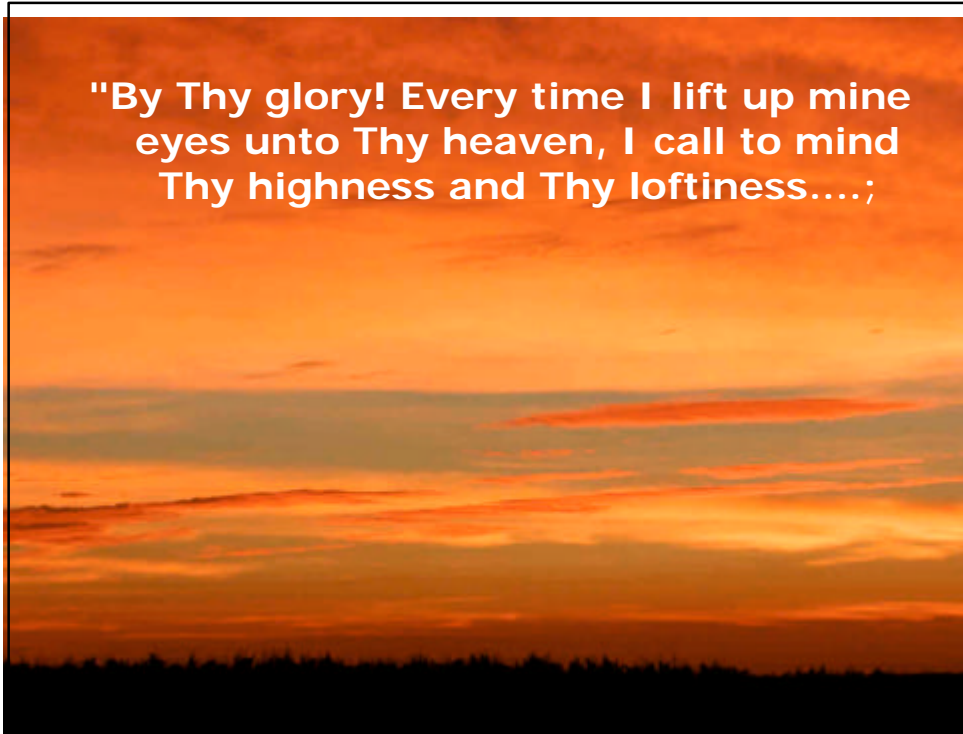
Nature is God's Will and is its expression in and through the contingent world.

It is a dispensation of Providence ordained by the Ordainer, the All-Wise."



Tablets of Baha'u'llah, p. 142

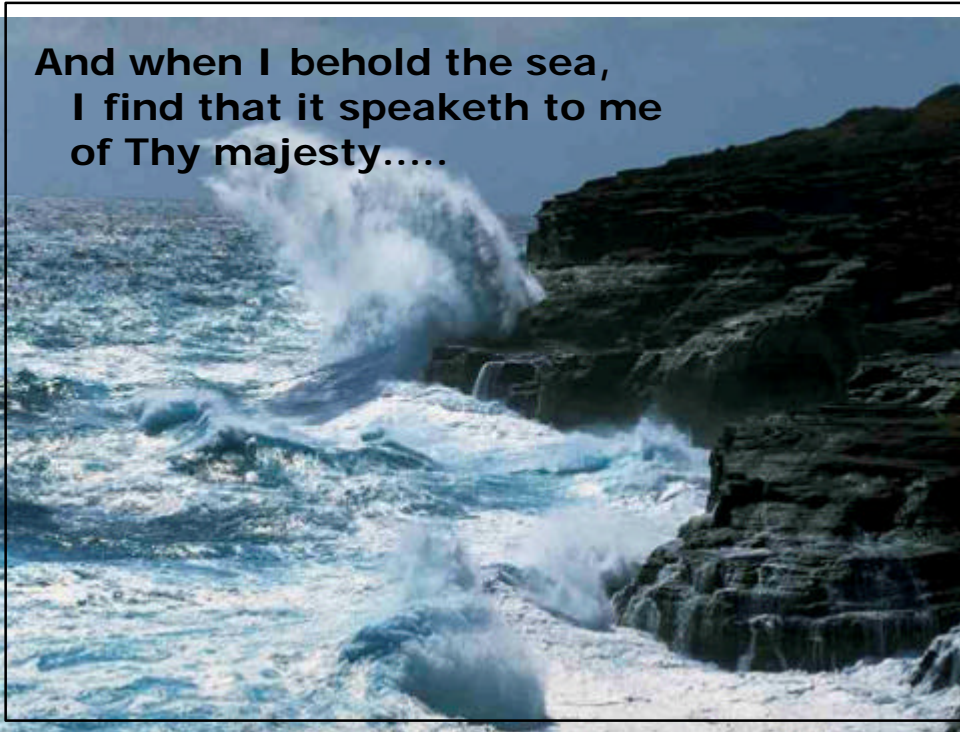
"By Thy glory! Every time I lift up mine eyes unto Thy heaven, I call to mind Thy highness and Thy loftiness....;

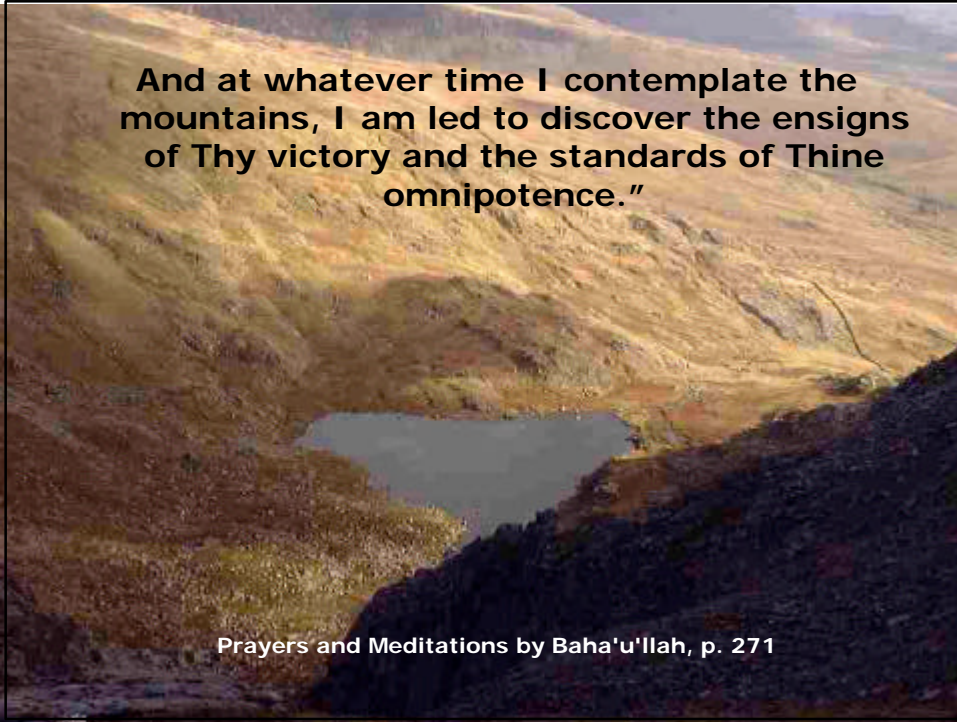


**and every time I turn my gaze to Thine
earth, I am made to recognize the
evidences of Thy power and the
tokens of Thy bounty.**



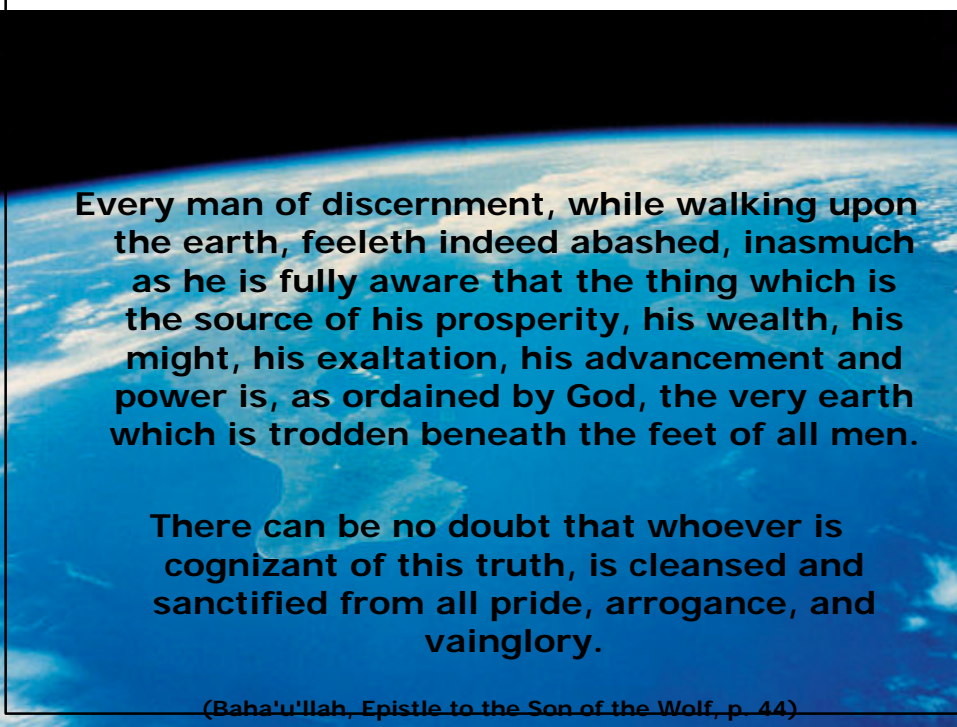
**And when I behold the sea,
I find that it speaketh to me
of Thy majesty.....**





And at whatever time I contemplate the mountains, I am led to discover the ensigns of Thy victory and the standards of Thine omnipotence."

Prayers and Meditations by Baha'u'llah, p. 271



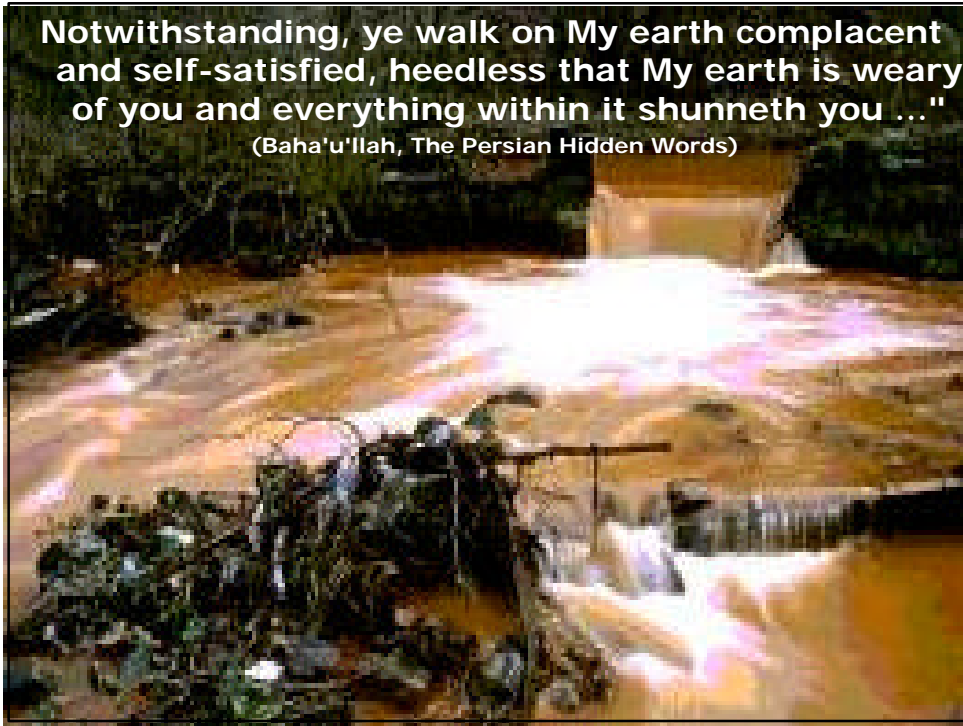
Every man of discernment, while walking upon the earth, feeleth indeed abashed, inasmuch as he is fully aware that the thing which is the source of his prosperity, his wealth, his might, his exaltation, his advancement and power is, as ordained by God, the very earth which is trodden beneath the feet of all men.

There can be no doubt that whoever is cognizant of this truth, is cleansed and sanctified from all pride, arrogance, and vainglory.

(Baha'u'llah, Epistle to the Son of the Wolf, p. 44)

**Notwithstanding, ye walk on My earth complacent
and self-satisfied, heedless that My earth is weary
of you and everything within it shunneth you ..."**

(Baha'u'llah, The Persian Hidden Words)



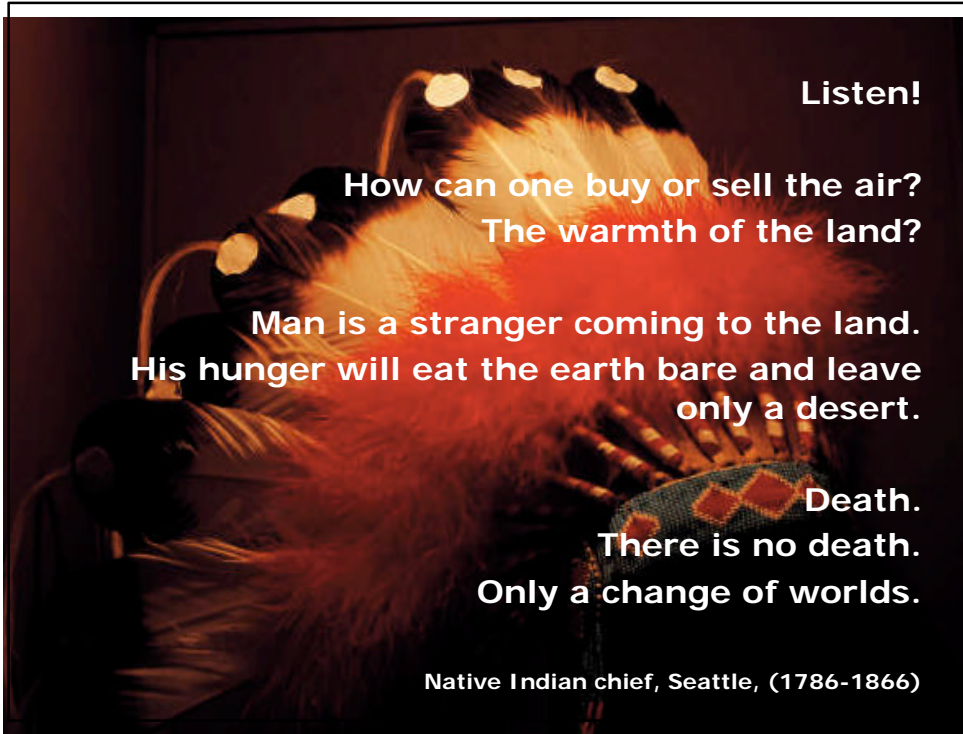
Listen!


**How can one buy or sell the air?
The warmth of the land?**

**Man is a stranger coming to the land.
His hunger will eat the earth bare and leave
only a desert.**

**Death.
There is no death.
Only a change of worlds.**

Native Indian chief, Seattle, (1786-1866)





Reflect upon the inner realities of the universe, the secret wisdoms involved, the enigmas, the inter-relationships, the rules that govern all.

For every part of the universe is connected with every other part by ties that are very powerful and admit of no imbalance, nor any slackening whatever.

(Abdu'l-Baha, Selections from the Writings of Abdu'l-Baha, p. 157)



The earth's dynamics are characterised by critical thresholds and abrupt changes.

Human activities could inadvertently trigger changes with catastrophic consequences for the Earth System.

(International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme, Science 4, 2006)

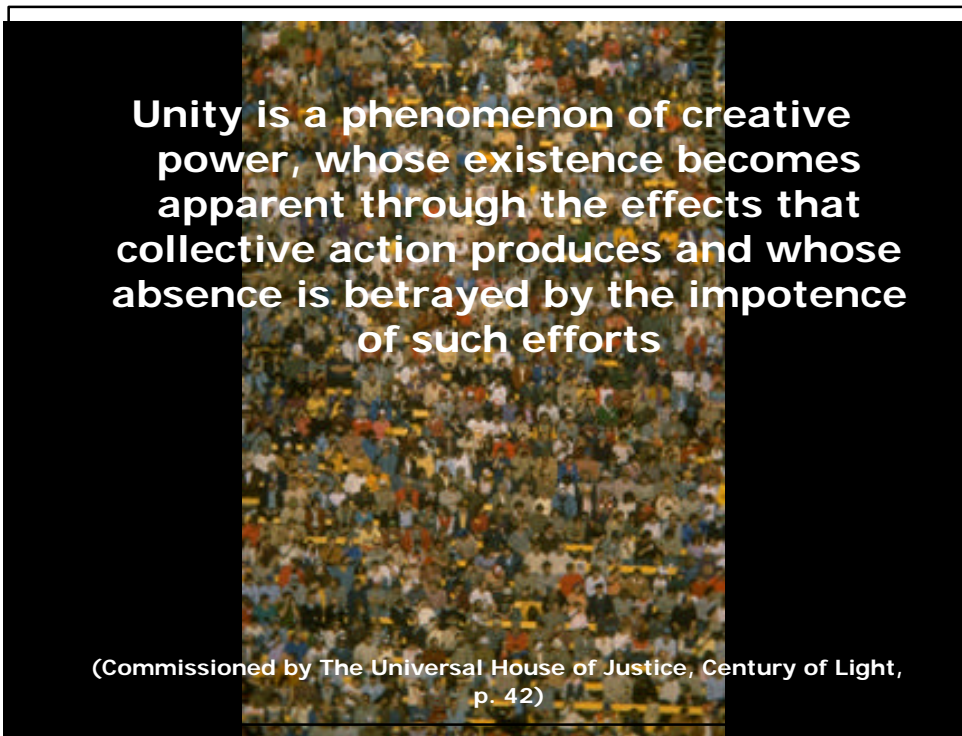


**Were one to observe with an eye that
discovereth the realities of all things, it
would become clear that**

**the greatest relationship that bindeth the
world of being together lieth in the range of
created things themselves,**

**and that co-operation, mutual aid and
reciprocity are essential characteristics in
the unified body of the world of being.**

(‘Abdu’l-Bahá, Compilations, Huququ’l-lah)



**Unity is a phenomenon of creative
power, whose existence becomes
apparent through the effects that
collective action produces and whose
absence is betrayed by the impotence
of such efforts**

**(Commissioned by The Universal House of Justice, Century of Light,
p. 42)**



**We need a change of heart, a reframing
of all our conceptions and a new
orientation of our activities.**

**The inward life of man as well as his
outward environment have to be
reshaped if human salvation is to be
secured.**

(Compilations, The Compilation of Compilations vol. I, p. 85)

