

Graced to Craft

All the days Noah built his ark,
Spared through Providence, from water by water.
All our days we're called to disembark,
To the Spirit's fire, saved from fire.

-Mary B. Anderson

By grace, believers are given a disposition to be helpful and generous.
We're created in the image of God, our Creator and Sustainer of all things.

“What if Thou make us able to make like Thee-
To light with moons, to clothe with greenery,
To hang gold sunsets o'er a rose and purple sea!”

-George MacDonald, Diary of An Old Soul

As a poet, I have a passion for language. By grace to take the power of an emotion and to form it into words—all aligned on a page with creative writing is a gift. Ever since my youth, I've written poems sketched in my journals or on pieces of paper. Often I am still eager to write a letter to a friend, and of course, collect cards with beautiful artwork. Yet, Herman Bavinck affirms my convictions, and he clarifies my expectations placed upon art, creating, and crafting.

“Art is much, but it is not everything. Art is therefore in the first place an evidence of man's ability to do and to make. Art cannot close the gulf between ideal and real. Besides, art in all its works and ways conjures up an ideal world. Art cannot reconcile for sin. It cannot cleanse us of our pollution. And it is not able even to dry our tears with the griefs of life.”

Perhaps this might be the reason my life holds rich experiences and appreciation for theology, apologetics and evangelism. Bavinck articulates art offers much but not everything to be at peace with God. Just look to creation, which is God's natural revelation to us all. The holy Scriptures, God's special revelation to us, offers understanding for our salvation in Christ Jesus, His will, purposes and plans.

