

July 4, 2021

Scott's Thoughts



“And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.” (Genesis 1:31, ESV)

I noticed last night that the number of flies this year seems to be above average and began to wonder what values do house flies have? So, I began to read up on houseflies. Some things I already knew and many things I did not. Wikipedia says, “Houseflies are a nuisance, disturbing people while at leisure and at work, but they are disliked principally because of their habits of contaminating foodstuffs.” This is one of those things I already knew. It is one of those things all of us know. One of the things I did not know was anywhere we go in the world, where there are humans, we will find flies, including the Arctic and Antarctic. That is the negative, but I know there must be a reason for flies because God made nothing that was of no value. There really are ways they are used. I did find that the common housefly is useful in scientific research. One researcher stated that one of their values in research is that their use “did not disturb anyone sensitive to animal cruelty.”

During WWII, the Japanese made use of the ease by which the fly can spread disease and developed a bomb that was separated into two sections. The first section contained houseflies and the other section contained a bacterial slurry that coated the flies upon their

release from containment. The bacterial agent in this case was cholera for which the Japanese soldiers had been vaccinated against. But when this type of bomb was released in China, the estimated death toll for the Chinese citizens was 410,000.

Another thing I discovered about the common housefly is their larva, when harvested, can be turned into a wonderful fish food. I guess the phrase, “Beauty is in the eye of the beholder” may never be more true than in the case of fish for the common housefly.

“God never made junk.” A common housefly serves several purposes and researchers look a little deeper to discover their usefulness. They are useful for many pharmacological interests. But for the rest of us, they are just pests we wish to eliminate from our existence. If we were able to eliminate them, we would upset the balance of nature and would make some extremely useful research much more expensive. It could delay the development of untold new products that might eventually be life saving for us or for someone dear to us.

“So God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all his work that he had done in creation.” (Genesis 2:3, ESV) Notice that God rested not retired. The same God who brought all things into existence is the same God who made everything work in harmony. He is still working to maintain harmony to this very day.

Thanks for listening and keep on shining.

—Scott