

Do you think your pet will be in heaven?

Sunday, October 4, is the Feast of St. Francis (October 4 is the day of his death). It is the day set aside for the "Blessing of the Pets."

St Francis was convinced that God indwells everything God has created, therefore nothing is evil in itself and everything is worthy of our reverence and respect.

Do you share Francis' view?

How would this view change how you treat humanity, animals, all of creation?

Read Colossians 1:16 and Ephesians 4:6.

What do these verses tell us about the connectedness of all things?

Read Revelation 5:13.

Who is singing? Do the "choir members" surprise you? What do you think about "creatures" being included in heaven?

Read Mark 16:15

Ok. Is preaching the gospel to the creatures a bit weird to you?

How has the "gospel" been explained to you?

The gospel to me (Phillip) is not about the afterlife but about what kingdom you belong to here and now.

How does that view of the gospel change how we treat people, animals and the environment?

Read Psalm 145:9,16.

How does God treat his/her creation? Ok, how then should we?

Read Hosea 2:18 (NIV).

What is the promise/hope expressed by God?

Is it reasonable to try to fulfill God's hope today?

How will you see and treat creation after this study than you did before this study?