Excerpt from Saint Augustine’s *Confessions* on Looking for God in Creation (Book X, Section 9)

And what is this God? I asked the earth, and it answered “I am not He.” And all the things on the earth confessed the same thing. I questioned the sea and the depths and the creeping animals, and they replied, “We are not your God; look above us.” I questioned the breezes, and the whole atmosphere with all its inhabitants replied “[...] I am not God.” I questioned the sky, the sun, the moon, the stars: “No, we are not the God whom you are seeking,” they said. I said to everything that existed outside my flesh, “Tell me about my God - since you are not him - tell me something about him.” Then they cried out with a loud voice, “He is the one who made us.” My attentiveness was my question, and their beauty was their reply.[[1]](#footnote-0)

**Source:**

* Augustine of Hippo, Saint, Sheed, F. J., and Foley, Michael P. *Confessions*. 2nd ed.; edited, with notes, by Michael P. Foley. Indianapolis: Hackett Pub. Co., 2006.

1. Augustine, *Confessions*, 193-194. [↑](#footnote-ref-0)