

Genesis 3
The fallen creation

**10 THE CRUELTIES OF NATURE,
LORD**

1 The cruelties of nature, Lord,
we find so hard to take;
was it for this you fashioned all
that you delight to make?

2 When neither bright nor beautiful
your creatures stalk their prey,
a food-chain full of blood and death
with mercy far away?

3 And yet our choices also lead
to spreading grief and pain,
and humans have become their cause
by reckless greed of gain.

4 Once free, now fallen and corrupt,
our innocence has gone;
our sickness now infects the world
and makes the earth to groan.

5 The waves and fires that wreck our homes,
the spreading desert sands,
the dying species, are the work
of human brains and hands.

6 We multiply the means of death
which cannot draw a line
between the evil and the good,
whatever our design.

7 Our God, we need your mighty arm
to move our heart and mind;
if we would heal our wounded earth,
Lord, heal all humankind.

CM Tune: BANGOR

Scriptures: Gen 3 Ram 8:18-25
Written: Herne Hill, SE London, 12-14 Sept 2016

Having written recently and positively about all creatures great and small, I thought it right to reflect the downside of the natural (or unnatural) world, and the destruction and disasters for which we humans are largely responsible.

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