

# A LETTER FROM DR. SEAN LUCAS

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My dear Friends:

Well, when I wrote last week about God being in charge of the frost and snow, I didn't expect that our kids would be out of school for a week! But these snow days have been good nonetheless—in between the work that I've done to get ready for Sunday, I've been reading a great deal about Christ's Lordship over the arts.

Part of this reading is to prepare for our Sunday evening series. This spring, we are exploring "Every square inch: Christ's Lordship over all things"; this past Sunday night, we looked at Matthew 28:18-20 and heard Jesus say, "All authority in heaven and on earth is given to me." And as you may remember, I made the point that Christ's Lordship extends not just to spiritual, heavenly things, but to material, earthly things, to all of our lives. And that means we need to think a little bit about what it means for Christ to be Lord over economics, medicine, and law.

And art. I have to confess that I wasn't raised in an "artsy" family. My mom is a crafter; and I took piano lessons and sang in choirs until I graduated high school. But we had the sense that the arts were something "secular," something divided out from the "spiritual" world that we inhabited on Sunday or as we read our Bibles during the week. And yet, if Christ is Lord over all things and over every area of our lives, then sure he is Lord over the arts too—painting and drawing, music and movies, crafts and dance, Christ is somehow Lord over this sphere of life.

So, how does beauty enter into a conversation about the arts? Or allusion and accessibility? What about responsibility? Meaning and interpretation? Narrative? And how does the confession "Jesus is Lord" relate to beauty, allusion, accessibility, responsibility, meaning, interpretation, narrative, and a range of other conversations that we might have? If we are going to tear down the divide between Sunday and the rest of the week, then it is in the very practical areas of life such as the arts that we can begin to ask these kinds of questions. It is notable that John Calvin recognized creative activity—even that produced by unbelievers—might serve as signs to point us to God's continued care for his world. His Spirit, his revelation, his grace pervade his world, if we have eyes to see and ears to hear.

These are some of the ruminations that I've been having trying to stay warm this week. It is part of the continued quest to see Christ point his finger over every part of my life and say, "Mine!"

In the grip of God's grace,



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