

Virtuoso Ignored

A man wearing jeans, a T-shirt and a baseball cap positioned himself against a wall beside a trash can at the L'Enfant Plaza station in Washington, D.C. He pulled out a violin and began to play. In the next 43 minutes, as he performed six classical pieces, 1,097 people passed him by, ignoring him.

No one knew it, but the man playing outside the Metro was Joshua Bell, one of the finest classical musicians in the world, playing some of the most elegant music ever written on a \$3.5 million Stradivarius. But no crowd gathered for the virtuoso. "It was a strange feeling, that people were actually ignoring me," said Bell.

Have you ever felt ignored? God knows what it feels like. The Apostle Paul said that God had sovereignly planted evidence of His existence in the very nature of man. And creation delivers an unmistakable message about His creativity, beauty, power and character.

During April, as five dogwood trees in my yard opened their pink blooms, each of them with petals in the shape of a cross, each tip tinged in blood-red color, with the image of a crown at the center, I knew it was no coincidence that they pointed to the crucifixion of the King of Kings.

Although God has revealed His majesty, many refuse to acknowledge and thank Him.

Let us not be among them. Today, may our praise be to the Virtuoso of heaven, who shows Himself to us in many ways.

--Beecher Hunter