

TAPE DECK: (Joyce
Lamin)

MP 200 p1-2

MUSIC: "Conditor Alme Siderum" [RHX - HTU.E.130]

Man has not yet really conquered the sea - there's still so much to be learnt about it, and it's difficult to explore even with the best of modern technology. But we have, generally, outgrown the primitive fear and wild imagination about the sea and its creatures, and have begun to be aware of (for instance) how much we need it, not as a convenient dumping-place for refuse of all sorts, but as a necessary factor for human life on earth and even as a potential major source of food. But while the mythology of the sea, wh. you'll notice in some of the Pss. of the Bible, may seem now to be rather quaint, is there all that much difference in our attitudes to the sea from those of our ancestors? Isn't it just as mysteriously enigmatic to us as it was to them?.. despite our facility in yachting, water-skiing, swimming, building and travelling on large ships... It's a source of typhoons as well as pleasure and calm beauty, of death & drowning as well as of livelihood and enjoyment, the home of killer sharks as well as of colourful coral and charming turtles. And we still think of water and sea in terms of symbol, in songs, film, poetry. Immense and deep, as God's mercy & love are: spectacular and noisy, in a storm, in the strange phenomenon of a bore or a water-spout, as the power of God experienced by man is: destructive and also life-giving, as the judgement of God on human pride & vanity is. Next time you find yourself admiring a view of the sea, enjoying its beauty, think a little further in a prayer of praise to God, and let the mystery of it lead you to think of who its creator is, what He is like; for to Him you are more important, ~~and~~ everything He gives for your enjoyment, pleasure, fascination can remind you of His love, the greatest gift & power & source of life there is.