

REACH FOR THE SKY

By Bill Pugh

A film and a book tell the story of Douglas Bader, the daring pilot who lost both legs in a terrible accident.

With artificial legs attached, he took to the skies in WWII and was a renowned fighter ace, who was shot down over enemy lines, imprisoned and made numerous attempts to escape.

It's a story of indomitable courage, determined to reach for the sky. The heavens have always been a challenge to those who take to the air. Space travel has loomed as an exciting possibility. How far can we go into space?

Is there life on a distant planet? Now we are challenged to board a space craft and travel in orbit.

Millions of dollars are being poured into space projects.

It is all very exciting and challenging, but in all this there is a note of caution. Do we have any right to spend millions on these projects while millions starve on our planet? Is it irresponsible to look above when our own life on earth is not in order?

Reflection:

Psalm 8 invites us to 'consider the heavens'. To glory in the sky above, all the handiwork of the Creator, and to reflect on our place in the scheme of things on earth. On earth we have dominion, stewardship over God's handiwork, with all animals, birds and fish for our provision and care. To be shared with all human kind. All to his praise. But in our abundance we need a sense of perspective to consider those who have less.

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www.victas.uca.org.au