

Climate Change: Is This the End?

An imminent disaster from climate change is being drilled into our culture. Those under 40 have been greatly impacted. This is because they have been brought up under the belief that humans are in charge of the future of the planet. Whether or not there is an earth in the future depends on us. And that great, irreversible damage has already been done that will take “hundreds to thousands of years to overcome.” It is alarming to see how many Christians are getting swept up in basically what is a godless movement. It is our aim here to look at some Biblical truths on this matter that should reorient our focus back to the fact that God is in control — and that fact alone should put our minds at ease.

I. We Live on a Cursed Planet

- A. Genesis 3:17: *The ground is cursed because of you. You will eat from it by means of painful labor all the days of your life.*
 - 1. It was God himself that caused the planet to be corrupted.
- B. Romans 8:20, 22: *For the creation was subjected to futility—not willingly, but because of him who subjected it—For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together with labor pains until now.*
 - 1. The creation groans — not because of what we’ve done to it — but because of what God has done to it.

II. Earth Exists for Us

- A. God created the earth — it is His responsibility to preserve it.
- B. Exodus 9:29: *so that you may know the earth belongs to the Lord.* Since God owns it, it is His responsibility to preserve it.
- C. Colossians 1:17: *He is before all things, and by him all things hold together.*
- D. Our responsibility is to exercise good stewardship.

III. We Are to Subdue the Earth

- A. Genesis 1:28: *Be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth, and subdue it. Rule the fish of the sea, the birds of the sky, and every creature that crawls on the earth.*
 - 1. Subdue means “to bring the earth completely under our control for our own good.” We have been given the freedom to extract its resources and develop its capabilities.
 - 2. We are not an intruder into the creation. It has been created for our benefit.
- B. The resources God gives are renewable. Job 28 - mining turned over the mountains. Dams stopped rivers.
- C. Good Stewards Do Not Abuse the Planet
 - 1. Psalm 8:6-8: *You made him ruler over the works of your hands; you put everything under his feet: all the sheep and oxen, as well as the animals in the wild, the birds of the sky, and the fish of the sea that pass through the currents of the seas.*
 - 2. Showing respect for the creation demonstrates respect for God (the giver) and ourselves.

IV. God Will Bring the Earth to an End — Not Us

- A. 2 Peter 3:7: *But by His word the present heavens and earth are being reserved for fire, kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly people.*
- B. Only God knows when that will be.

1. 2 Peter 3:10: *But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed.*
- C. We are not in control. We do not get to choose how or when the earth will be destroyed. We are not as big as we think we are.

V. As We Close...

- A. Until the end comes, we need to remember:
- B. Genesis 8:22: *As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, and day and night will not cease.*
- C. Let these words bring you peace ... and humble you ... as part of God's creation.