

San Juan church of Christ

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What Does God's Word Say About...

Climate Change

To people with faith in God and His word, many of the concerns raised about alleged man-made climate change are not very significant. The Hebrew writer said, "He [Christ] is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature, and upholds all things by the word of His power" (Heb. 1:3). "By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, and by the breath of His mouth all their hosts. For He spoke, and it was done; He commanded, and it stood fast" (Psm. 33:6, 9). The word "upholds" means simply that, by His word, He still maintains the order, harmony, and well-being of the whole creation.

Christians who read, study, and follow the Bible understand their God-given responsibility to be good stewards of the earth. Mankind was given dominion over all creation, and he is responsible to take care of it (Gen. 1:26, 2:15; Psm. 8:6-8). Christians believe that God is in control of the climate. Jesus said, "Your Father in heaven...makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust" (Matt. 5:45).

The book of Job declares that, "God thunders marvelously with His voice; He does great things which we cannot comprehend. For He says to the snow, 'Fall on the earth; likewise to the gentle rain and the heavy rain of His strength' (Job 37:5-6). "He [God] restrains the waters, and they dry up; and He sends them out, and they inundate the earth" (Job 12:15). "With moisture He loads the thick cloud; He disperses the cloud of His lightning. It changes direction, turning around by His guidance, that it may do whatever He commands it on the face of the inhabited earth" (Job 37:6, 10-12).

God's word even gives us the purpose of change in weather patterns. "Whether for correction [punishment], or for His world, or for loving kindness, He causes it to happen" (Job 37:13). So whether it is for disciplining or for blessing mankind, God causes moisture in the land and climate change for His purposes. God's word says that, "He [God] seals the hand of every man, that all men may know His work" (Job 37:7). This verse verifies that mankind has no control over climate change.

Man does not have the power to appreciatively alter the climate. God has promised that, "While the earth remains, seed time and harvest, cold and heat, winter and summer, and day and night shall not cease" (Gen. 8:22). According to scripture the only thing man can do to make any difference in the climate is to pray to God who controls it. "Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed earnestly that it would not rain; and it did not rain on the land for three years and six months. And he prayed again and the heaven gave rain and the earth produced its fruit" (James 5:17-18).

Those who do not believe in God or the Bible are full of arrogance and pride, assuming that mankind has a role in global destruction through man-made climate change. They preach fear of global warming to their disciples. They claim that due to rapid ice melt the sea levels will rise to the point of covering the present coastal shores. God's word says, "Who enclosed the sea with doors...And I placed boundaries on it and set a bolt and doors, and I said, ' Thus far you shall come, but no farther; and here shall your proud waves stop ' ?" (Job 37:8, 10-11).

As Christians we are concerned about those who are caught up in the "religion" of man-made climate change, who will not be prepared for the true global warming event that occurs when Christ returns. The Bible teaches that, "the present heavens and earth are being reserved for fire, kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, in which the heavens will pass away with a roar and the elements will be destroyed with intense heat, and the earth and its works will be burned up. Since all these things are to be destroyed in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be destroyed by burning, and the elements will melt with intense heat!" (2 Peter 3:7, 10-12).

Please send any comments, questions, or requests for a Bible study to:
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