



Faith & Facts: Global Warming

What does the say?

God saw everything that God had made and indeed, it was very good - Genesis 1:10

Praise God, you highest heavens - Psalm 148:4

There is no faithfulness or loyalty, and no knowledge of God in the land ...The land mourns, and all who live in it languish; together with the wild animals and the birds of the air, even the fish of the sea are perishing - Hosea 4:1,3

The earth dries up and withers, the world languishes and withers; the heavens languish together with the earth. The earth lies polluted under its inhabitants; for they have transgressed laws, violated the statutes, broken the ever-lasting covenant. - Isaiah 24:4-5

If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, pray, seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land - 2 Chronicles 7:14

For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven - Colossians 1:19

What does the say?

All creation is Lord's and we are responsible for the ways in which we use and abuse it. Water, air, soil, minerals, energy resources, plants, animal life and space are to be valued and conserved because they are God's creation and not solely because they are useful to human beings. (*Social Principles ¶160*)

God has granted us stewardship of creation. We should meet these stewardship duties through acts of loving care and respect. (*Social Principles ¶160*)

The US must move beyond its dependence on high carbon fossil fuels that produce emissions leading to climate change (and) ratify the Kyoto Protocol under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change ... (*Book of Resolutions, p.82*)

A transition to energy efficiency and renewable energy sources will combat global warming, protect human health, create new jobs, and ensure a secure, affordable energy future. (*Book of Resolutions, p.80*)

What does say?

Carbon dioxide and other heat-trapping pollution -- mainly from cars, power plants and other industrial sources that burn gasoline, coal and other fossil fuels - are collecting like a blanket in the atmosphere. (In the last century, carbon dioxide levels in our atmosphere have increased by more than 25 %)

11 of the last 12 years rank among the 12 warmest in recorded history.

Scientists predict that by 2100, the Earth will be 2 to perhaps more than 6 degrees warmer than it is today, leading to the further melting of polar ice caps and a potentially devastating rise in global sea levels.

Already communities such as Shishmaref, Alaska and island nations in the Pacific have been forced to relocate because of rising tides or melting permafrost attributable to climate change.

What do say?

Simple steps you can take to combat global warming:

- Write your elected officials and urge them to address the global climate crisis now! Ask your Senators and Representative to co-sponsor comprehensive legislation to reduce US carbon emissions (HR 1590 - Safe Climate Act / S 309 - Global Warming Pollution Reduction Act). Take action at www.umpower.org
- Drive smart and drive less: Use a fuel-efficient car or better yet choose an alternate method of transportation - public transit, biking, or walking. Less miles driving = less CO2 in the atmosphere!
- Use CFLs: Compact fluorescent bulbs last up to 10 times as long as incandescent bulbs and will keep half a ton of CO2 out of the air.
- Conserve energy: Turn off the lights, take it easy on the air conditioning, and investigate using "green energy" such as wind or solar power.

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