

The St. Peter Option: To Everyone an Answer Living as Exiles in a Foreign Land

1 Peter, 2 Peter, Christian Vocation, and the Table of Duties

7 Global Climate Change VS. The Curse of the Fall

Introduction:

In a post-Christian world, we have lost the understanding and belief that we are creatures whose world and life are dependent upon a Creator to provide for us, to sustain us, and to protect us. Human beings cannot live without a god—someone or something that we trust in and depend upon for our security and well-being. Ultimately, when man rejects God as Creator and Savior, we make a god out of ourselves in some way and believe that we can save our lives and our world. (Think of the response to the pandemic). Read 2 Peter 3:1-13

What is Global Climate Change?

Global climate change (global warming) is the belief that the irregularities and apparent “imbalance” that we experience in the natural world are due to human failures and influences that are threatening to destroy the planet. The religion of “global climate change” is based upon the thesis that the earth evolved into a perfectly tuned ecosystem that if left in its pristine state will continue to provide an environment in which all living things will flourish. Man is the intrusion into this ecosystem, the cause of imbalances that will bring about the destruction of the planet unless he corrects the negative influences that are harming the earth. (Restoring utopia without God).

What Phenomena are real?

Drought, famine, tornadic and hurricane activity, wide swings in temperature, variation in precipitation patterns, changes in ecosystems in various places, localized flooding, extinction of species, etc. are all phenomena that can be observed. The theses of global climate change, however, must be rejected because it asserts that the earth would be in perfect balance, if only man corrected his failings and assaults upon the earth that have jeopardized the natural “Garden of Eden.” Christians offer a different thesis, namely, that the apparent “imbalances” in (what we would call creation) are due to the fall into sin, where man turned over the dominion of the creation to the Serpent, and to the Curse of the Fall as a consequence of man’s sin and as an instrument of God for our repentance.

The “idol” of the global climate change religion is “mother earth”. She has “created” a perfect world that man has polluted. Salvation for the earth will come from man “cleaning up” and “fixing” the mess he has made out of the planet. Global climate change is a return to ancient paganism.

What is Paganism?

The worship of false gods, in this case, the natural world and ecosystems of earth which must be served by human sacrifices to “appease” the goddess, “mother earth” so that she will restore her own version of the “Garden of Eden.” (All false religions have a “works-righteous” component.

The Graeco-Roman world had its pantheon of gods that needed to be appeased in order to garner their favors. The ancient Egyptians worshipped the gods of the underworld, the world, and the overworld in order to “fix” the imbalances in nature that were causing famine, pestilence, or some other observable malady. Rejected in paganism is any notion of the Triune God who is both Creator AND Redeemer of the Creation.

What is the Scriptural Witness to global climate change, famine, and pestilence?

Satan is allowed certain prerogatives over the earth to do his muck-racking, as in the example of Job, but ultimately God is in charge for His own purposes. The ancient witness of the Bible and secular history shows the phenomena “climate change” in the form of drought, localized flooding, storms, pestilence, and species running wild have been with us throughout world history. (E.g., famine during the time of the patriarchs, the plagues in Egypt.

What is the purpose of the curse of the fall?

God cursed the creation and subjected her to futility as a consequence for man’s sin and as an instrument to call her to repentance and faith in Christ.

The Scriptural witness is that God created the heavens and the earth for man that we might receive and enjoy life with God in the fellowship of God’s love. The Holy Trinity created man in His own image, male and female, to be fruitful as God is and to exercise benevolent dominion over the creation as God does. It is not man made for the creation, but the creation made for man.

The curse of the fall is rooted in Adam giving over his dominion of the creation to Satan and God cursing of the creation as a consequence for man’s sin and in the hope of the resurrection of the creation in Christ. Jesus is God’s Son, the express image of the Father, through whom the creation is redeemed from sin and the curse of the fall to restore the creation and our relationship with God the way God intended it to be from the beginning of creation.

**Tracing the Scriptural Progression from Creation to the Curse of the Fall
to the Redemption of the Creation in Christ**

Genesis 1:28-31 – God gives to man dominion over the creation

Genesis 3:14-19 – The Curse of the Fall and the Promise of Salvation

Genesis 8:21b-22 – The Promise of the Sustaining of the Creation under the Curse after the Flood

Genesis 9:1-3 – The Opportunity to eat meat

The Catechesis of Jesus on the Evils of this World

Luke 13:1-5 – The Evils of the World and the Call to Repentance

Matthew 5:45 Sun and Rain, signs of God’s universal grace.

John 12:9-24 Unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies it bears much fruit

St. Paul Catechesis on the Curse of the Fall and the Hope of the Resurrection

Romans 8:18-23 – St. Paul Catechizes the Church Concerning the Curse of the Fall

Romans 8:31-39 – Nothing in Creation can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

Conclusion: What is our hope, what is our confidence?

The importance of the curse of the fall to call us to repentance and faith in Christ.

Faith in God’s sustaining care of the creation in Christ.

The hope of the resurrection

Psalm for Meditation: Psalm 104, 65, 95, 90, 97