

THE ENVIRONMENT 1



CLIMATE CHANGE, THE BIBLE AND WHAT ON EARTH WE'RE HERE FOR

@DaveGobbett

(1/4) GOD'S BLUE PLANET

The planet is warming, biodiversity is plummeting, plastic pollutes our oceans, soil quality is deteriorating. With all the language of climate crisis, how on earth should Christians respond to everything environmental? While some of us feel drawn to panic, others react more passively. Aren't other issues—'gospel issues'—more important? What would a prudent, whole-Bible response look like to one of the hottest topics around (pun intended)?

*They took all the trees and put them in a tree museum
And they charged the people a dollar and a half just to see 'em
Don't it always seem to go that you don't know what you've got till it's gone
They paved paradise and they put up a parking lot.
Joni Mitchell, 'Big Yellow Taxi'*

Discuss

→ What questions arise when you consider the environment from a faith perspective?

A. INTRODUCTION: GREETING GRETA



Net Zero, COP27, Electric vehicles: What is Climate Change all about?

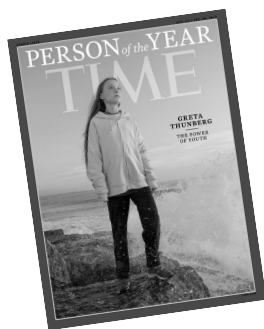
Some facts and figures . . .

- Overall: our planet is warming
- Amongst animals: biodiversity is plummeting
- In forests: Rainforests are shrinking
- On fields: soil-quality is going down
- In the oceans: plastic pollution is going up

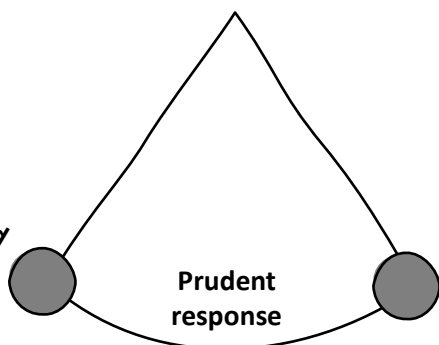




The Climate Pendulum



Panicked
response



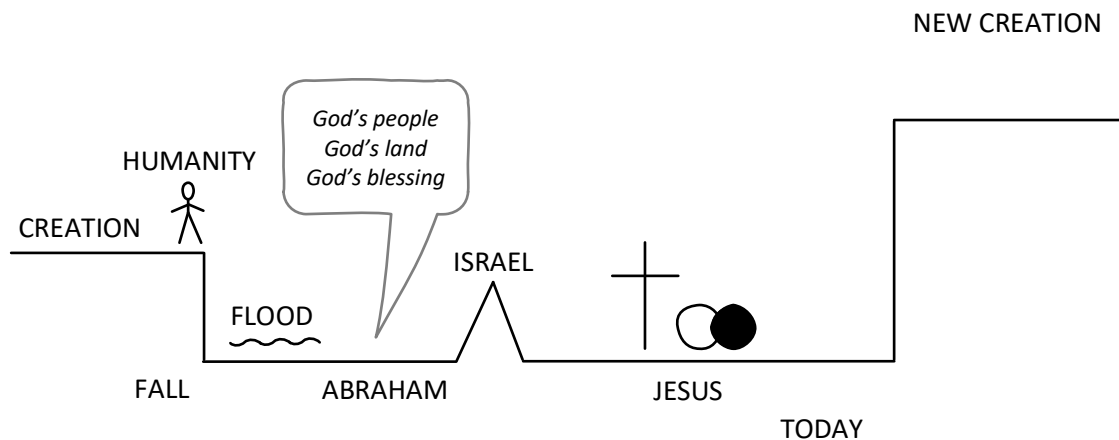
Passive
response



Yeah, but isn't it all going to burn?

➔ This is God's world ... entrusted to us ... damaged by sin ... renewed by Christ ➔

B. THIS IS GOD'S WORLD | CREATION



What a Wonderful World

- God created everything good (Gen 1:1)
- Because God made it all, he owns it all (Ps 24:1)
- The heavens declare the glory of God (Ps 19:1)



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