



What On Earth Is Creation Care?



Anglican Marks of Missions



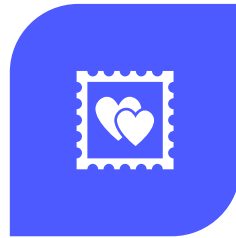
TELL:

Proclaim the
Good News
of the
Kingdom



TEACH:

Teach,
baptise and
nurture new
believers



TEND:

Respond to
human need
by loving
service



TRANSFORM:

Transform
unjust
structures of
society,
challenge
violence of
every kind &
pursue peace &
reconciliation



TREASURE:

Strive to
safeguard the
integrity of
creation, and
sustain and
renew the life
of the earth

What on Earth is ...

Why is missions linked to...

Who cares about ...



Creation Care??



Anglican Marks of Missions



TELL



TEACH



TEND



TRANSFORM



TREASURE

Children under 12:

- 1) Name three animals that were on the slides.
- 2) Tell me one point I made.



Which Is Right?

Amazing Grace

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow,
The sun forbear to shine;
But God, who called me here below,
Will be forever mine.

Which Is Right?

Amazing Grace

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow,
The sun forbear to shine;
But God, who called me here below,
Will be forever mine.

Joy to the World

Joy to the world; the Lord is come; Let Earth receive her King;
Let ev'ry heart prepare him room, And heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the Earth, the Savior reigns; Our mortal songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains,
Repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow,
Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make his blessings flow,
Far as the curse is found.

Which Is Right?

Amazing Grace



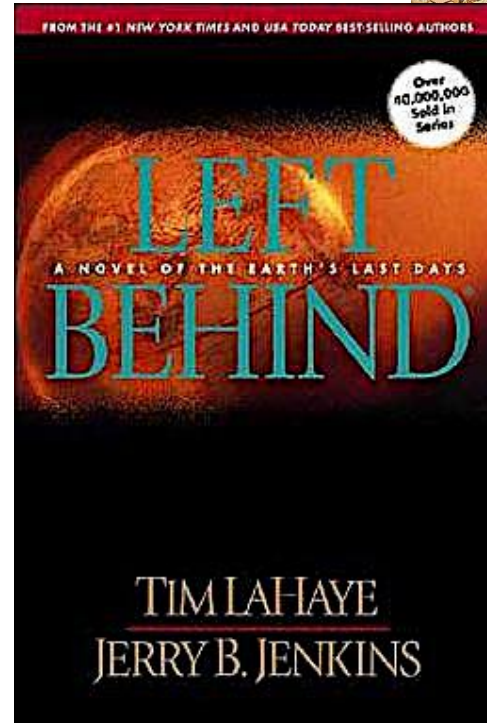
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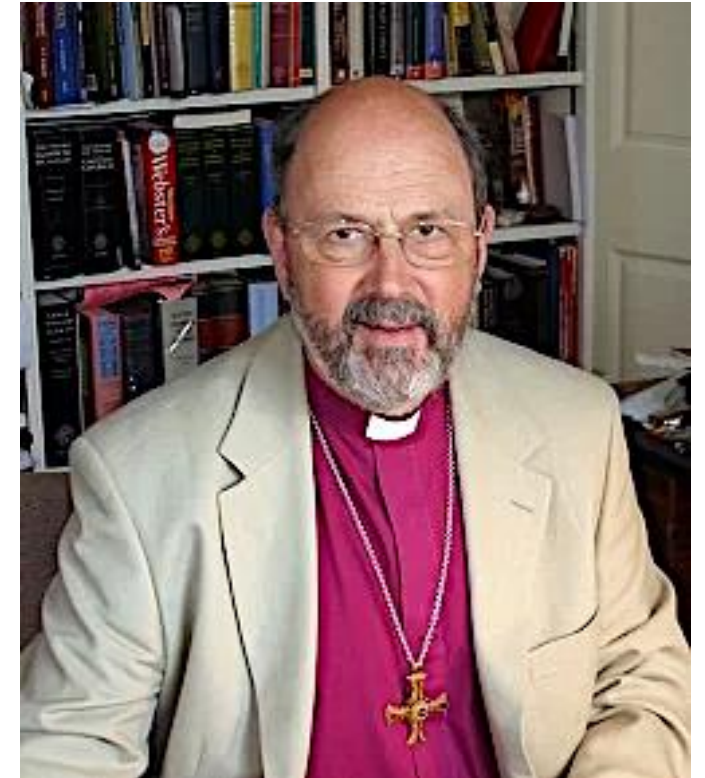
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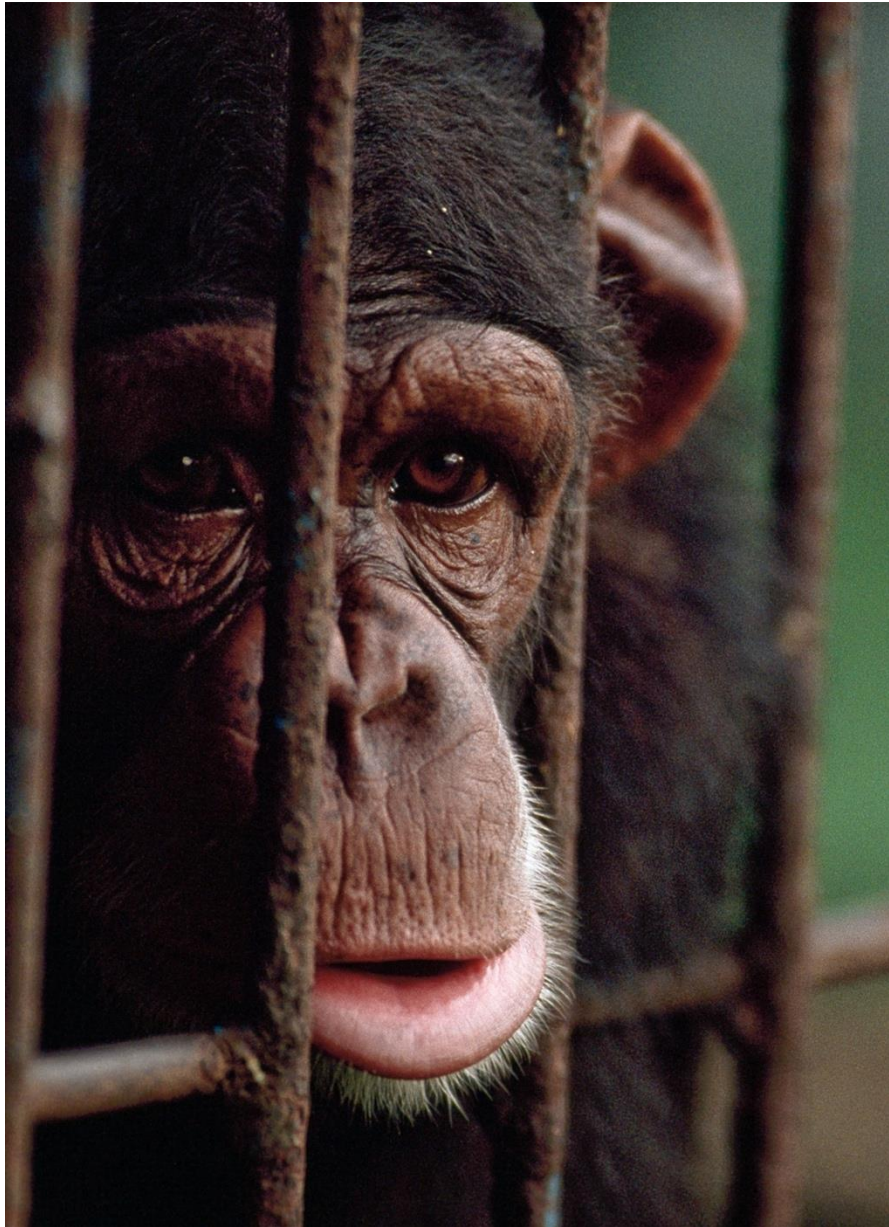


Which Is Right?

“God's plan is not to abandon this world, the world which he said was ‘very good’. Rather, He intends to remake it. And when He does, He will raise all His people to new bodily life to live in it. That is the promise of the Christian gospel.”

~ N.T. Wright, *Simply Christian*





Back to Scripture

Genesis 1:28

“And God said to them, ‘Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and **subdue it**, and **have dominion** over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.’

Back to Scripture

Genesis 1:28

- [כָּבַשׁ] **kavash** = subdue, dominate, bring into bondage
 - Zec 9:15 “*tread down*”, Mic 7:19 “*tread our iniquities*”, Jer 34:11, 2 Chr 28:10 “*subjugate/enslave*”
- [רָדָה] **radah** = have dominion, rule
 - Lev 25:43; Num 24:19; Neh 9:28; Isa 14:6

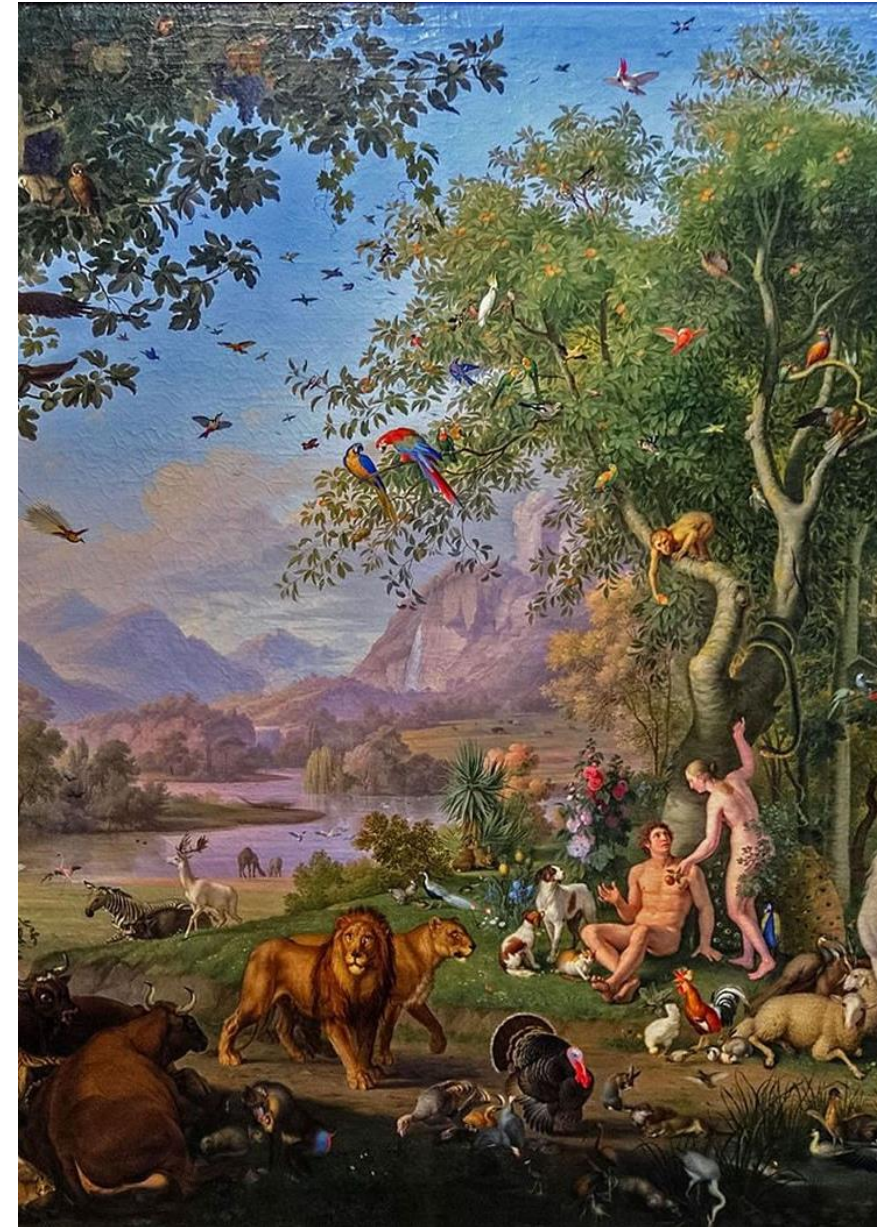
Back to Scripture

Genesis 1:28

“The words ‘have dominion’ is the Hebrew verb ‘radah’. Our normal understanding of ‘having dominion’ over another is to rule over them but this idea is found in another Hebrew verb malak.

The Hebrew verb radah is related to other words which have the meanings of descend, go down, wander and spread. This verb literally means to rule by going down and walking among the subjects as an equal.”

~ Jeff Benner



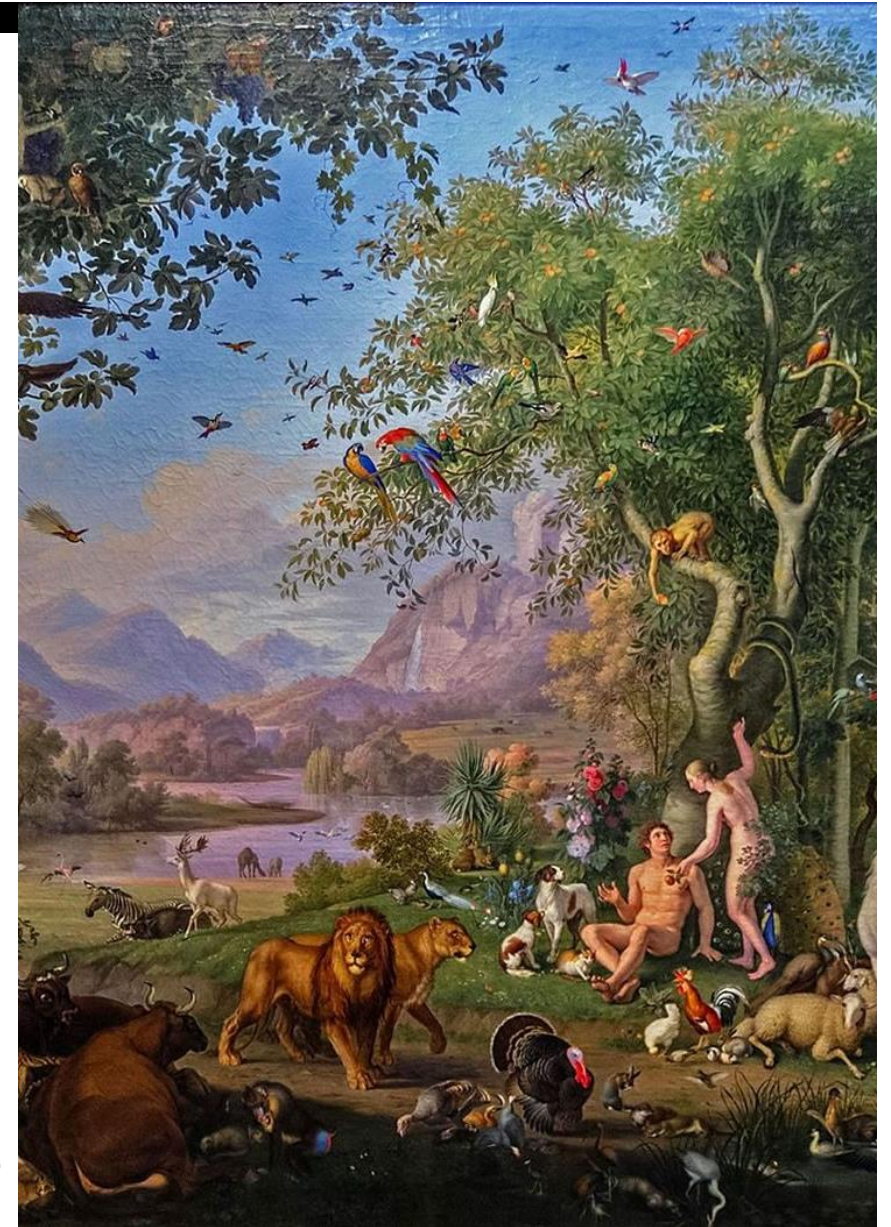
Back to Scripture

Genesis 1:28

“The use of the two Hebrew verbs ‘kavash’ and ‘radah’ imply that that man is to rule over the animals as his subjects, not as a dictator but a benevolent leader.

Man is also to walk among and have a relationship with his subjects so that they can provide for man and that man can "learn" from them.

~ Jeff Benner



Back to Scripture



Genesis 1:28

- Human's role in creation as **stewards**:
 - Kingship role: protector/defender
 - Custodian role: gardener/farmer/caretaker
- Makes sense of Genesis 2:15 "The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it."

Back to Scripture

Mark 1:12-13

“Immediately the Spirit impelled Him to go out into the wilderness. And He was in the wilderness forty days being tempted by Satan; **and He was with the wild beasts,** and the angels were ministering to Him.



Back to Scripture

Mark 1:12-13

- Richard Bauckham: depicts an ideal situation of humanity and creation – the wild beasts were no threat to him.
- Jesus comes to restore creation to its proper order.





Back to Scripture

Mark 1:12-13

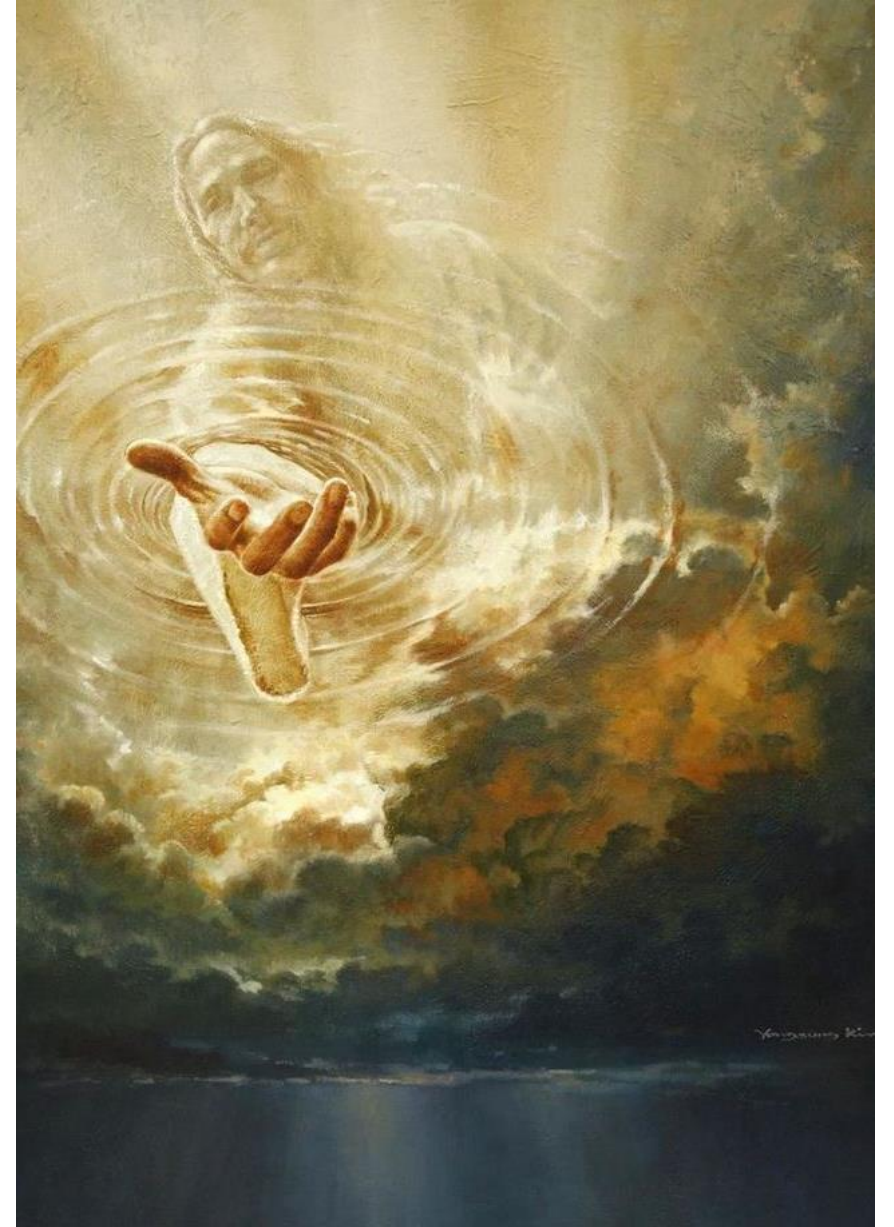
Old Testament prophecies about the Messiah:

- Hosea 2:18 – God’s new covenant includes animals.
- Isaiah 11 – wolf dwelling with lamb, leopard lying down with goat; children and snakes.
- V9 “They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.”

Back to Scripture

Colossians 1:15-20

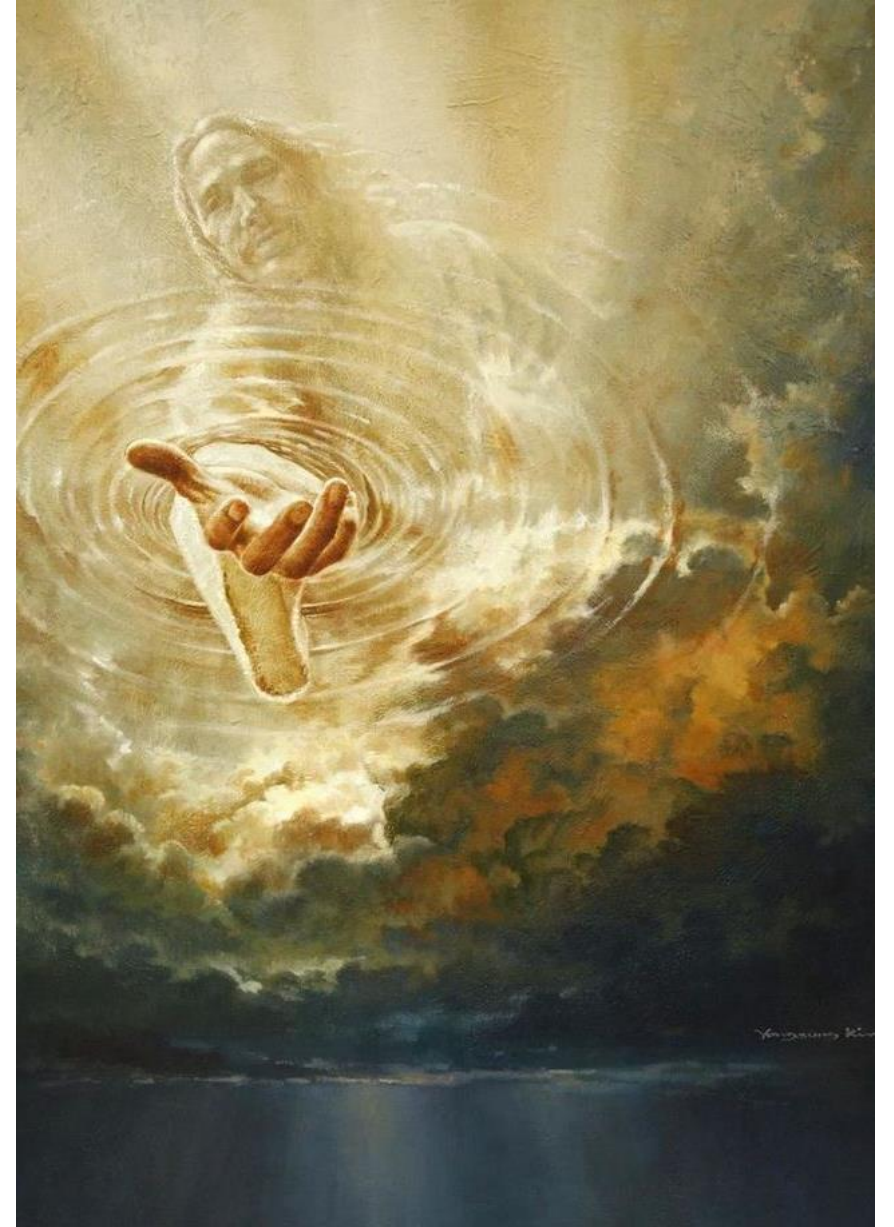
V19-20 “For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself **all things, whether on earth or in heaven**, making peace by the blood of his cross.



Back to Scripture

Colossians 1:15-20

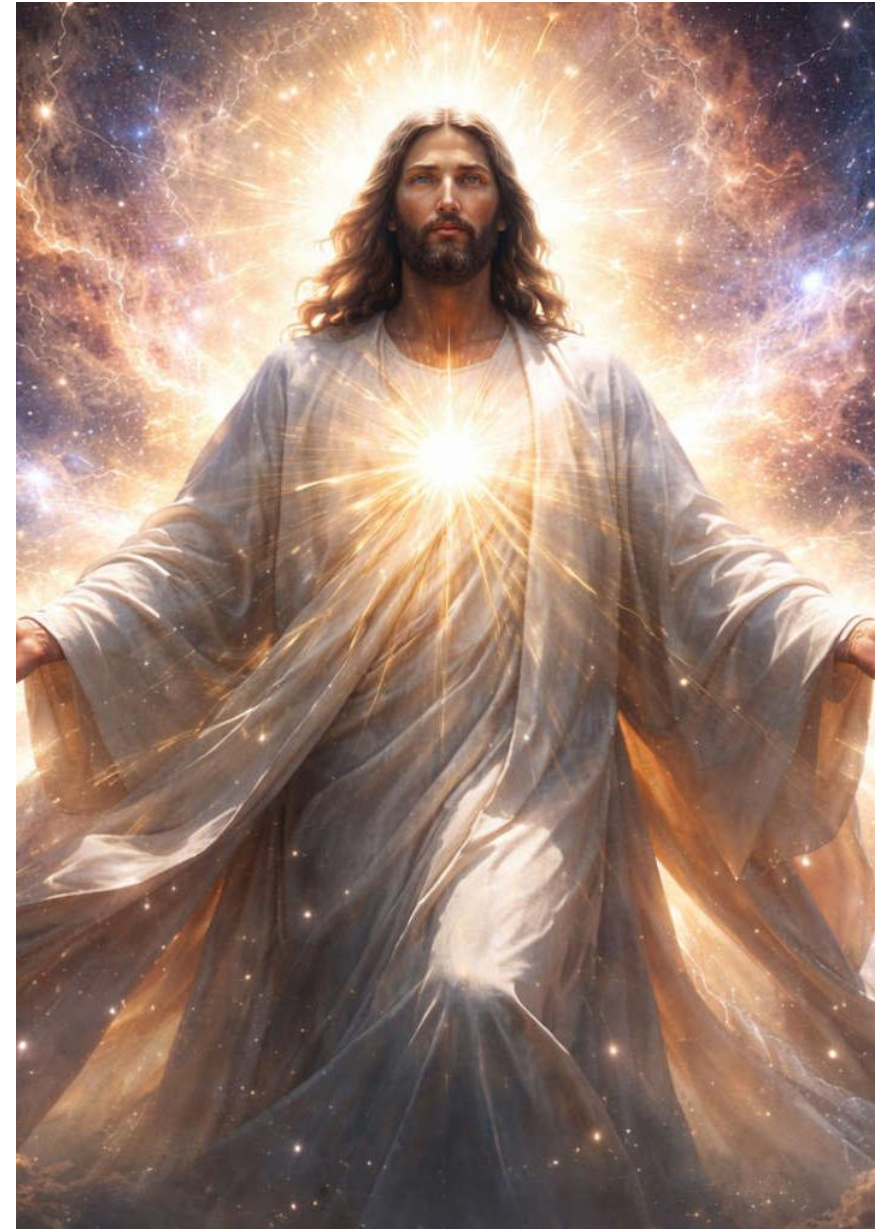
- Joseph Sittler: Jesus came to address not just human fallenness, but the fallenness of creation too.
- The Cross is not just for humans but creation too.



Back to Scripture

“All I am trying to do is to encourage evangelicals to read their whole Bibles, and to see the great arc that spans from Genesis 1-2 to Revelation 21-22, and to take Eph. 1:9-10, and Col. 1:15-20 with full seriousness – for there it is clear that **Paul sees personal redemption within a staggeringly cosmic and universal framework...**”

~ Chris Wright



Back to Scripture

“Creation shares in the effect of humanity’s sin but we human beings get to share in the fullness of creation’s redemption. And that is the right way round to put it. We get saved *along with creation*; and not that we get *saved out of creation*. God’s intention is to redeem that whole of creation and ***we can be a part of that*** and in so doing become a part of the new creation.”

~ Chris Wright



Back to Scripture

If missions is being sent out to
extend God's kingdom ...

And if God's kingdom includes
the redemption of creation ...

**Then missions must
include caring for creation!**

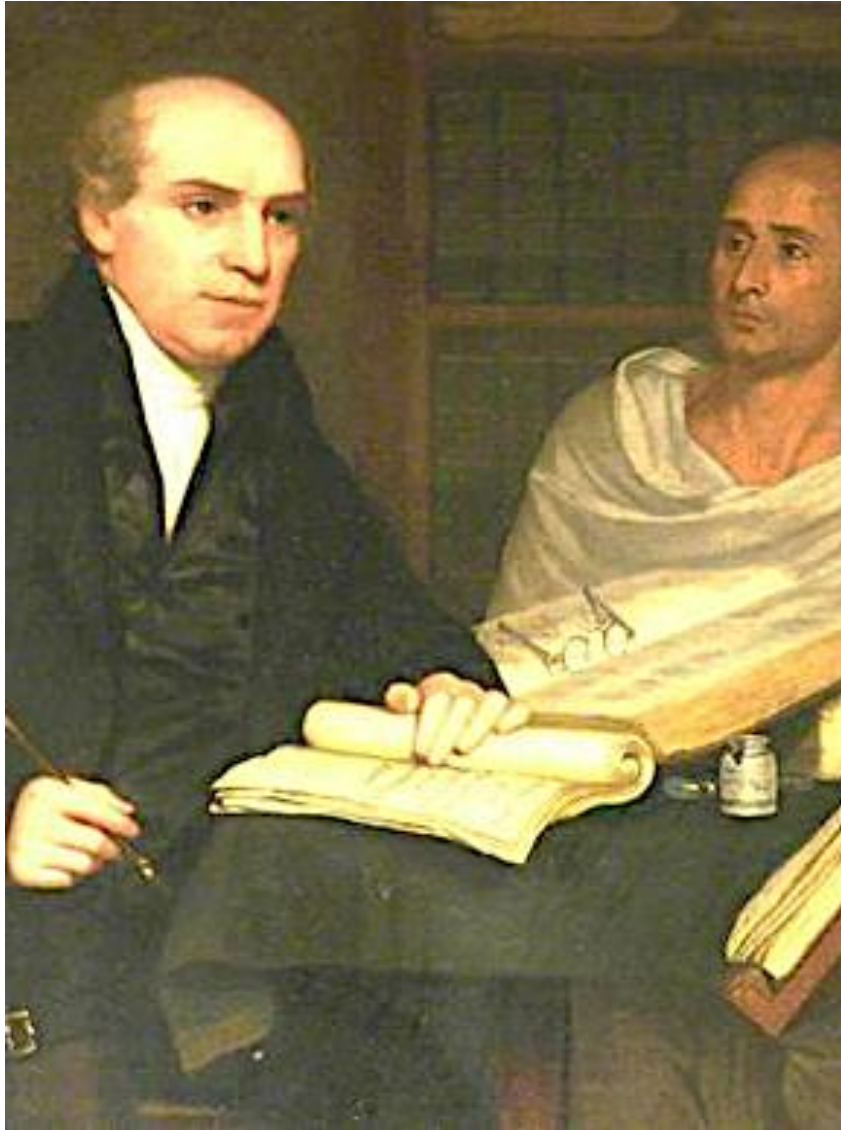


Back to Scripture



Missions as “the biblical truth that the gospel is God’s good news, through the cross and resurrection of Jesus Christ, **for individual persons, and for society, and for creation.** All three are broken and suffering because of sin; all three are included in the redeeming love and mission of God; all three must be part of the comprehensive mission of God’s people.”

~ Cape Town Commitment, Third Lausanne Congress (2010)



Good Examples:

William Carey

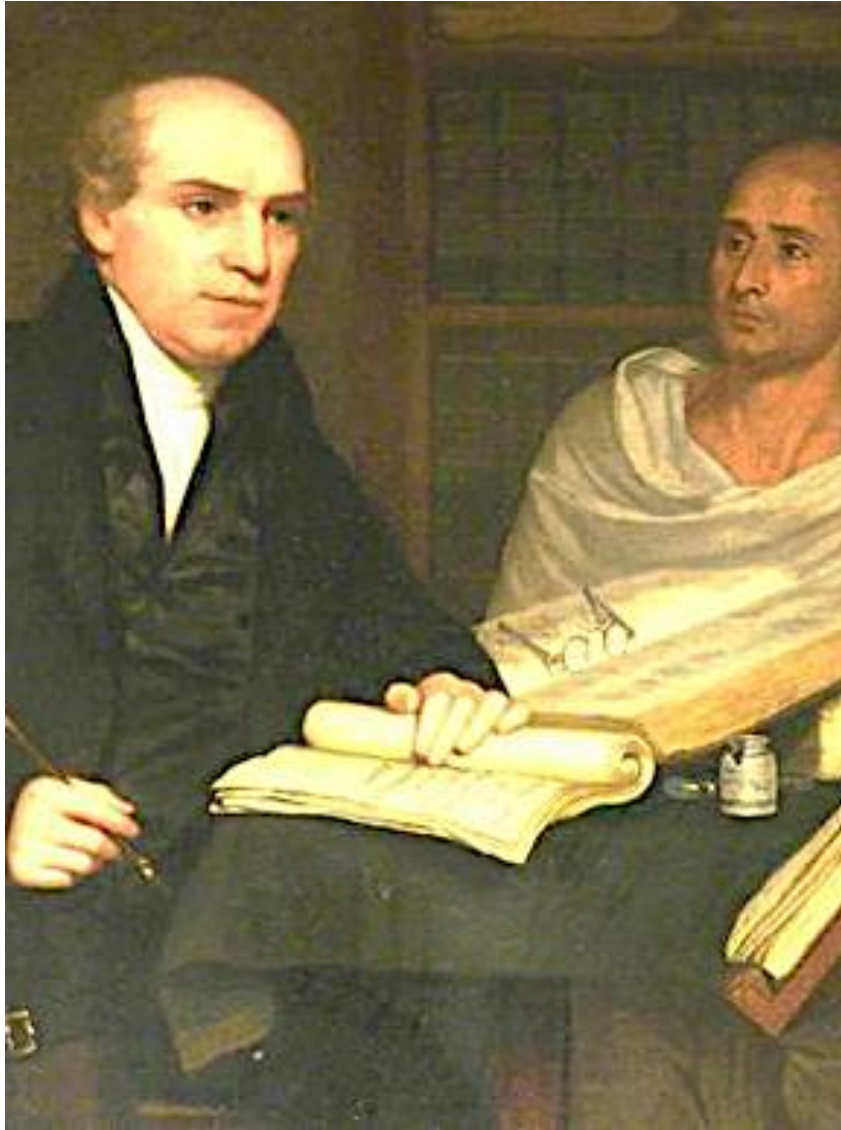
- Known as the “father of modern missions”.
- Pioneered missionary work in India.
- Celebrated for Bible translation efforts.

Good Examples:

William Carey

- Established the Agricultural and Horticultural Society of India in 1820.
- Edited Roxburgh's three volume "Flora Indica: Description of Indian Plants".
- In fact, some plants are named after him:
 - careya herbacea (SEA eucalyptus)
 - careya aborea (wild guava)





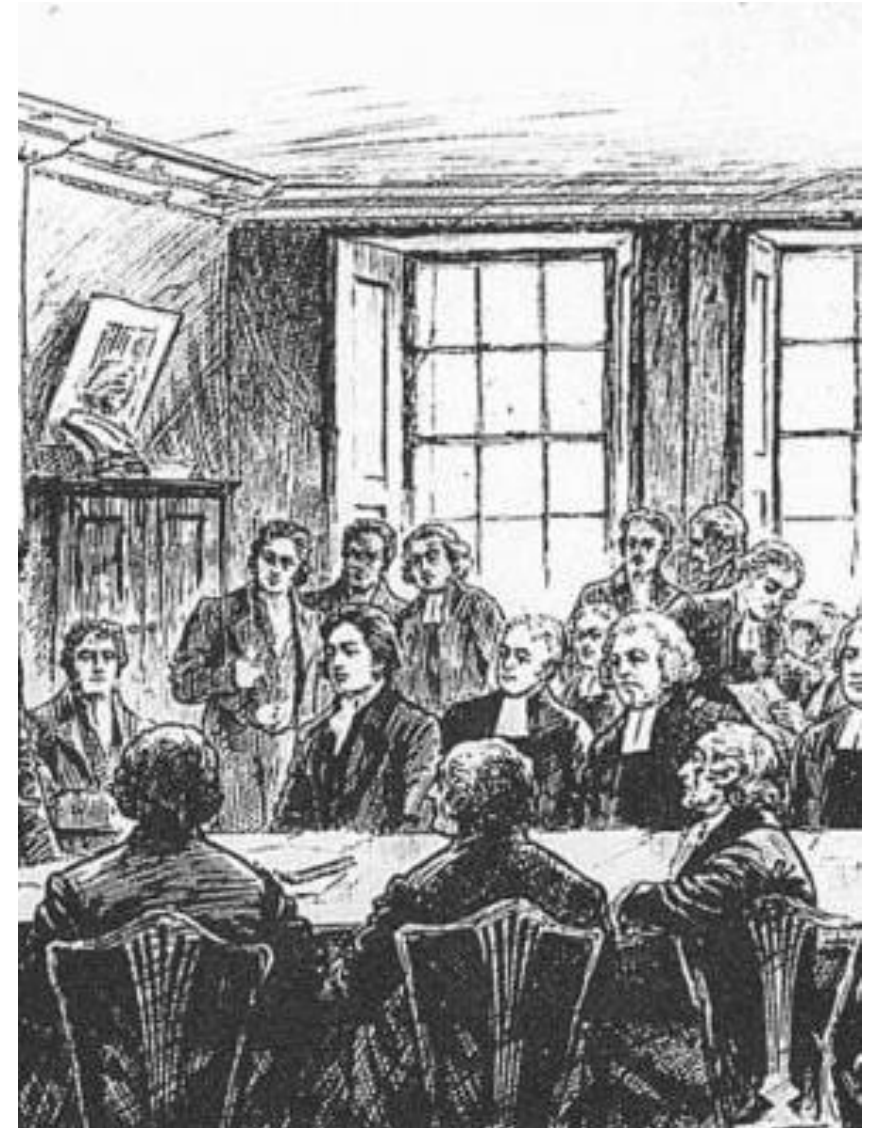
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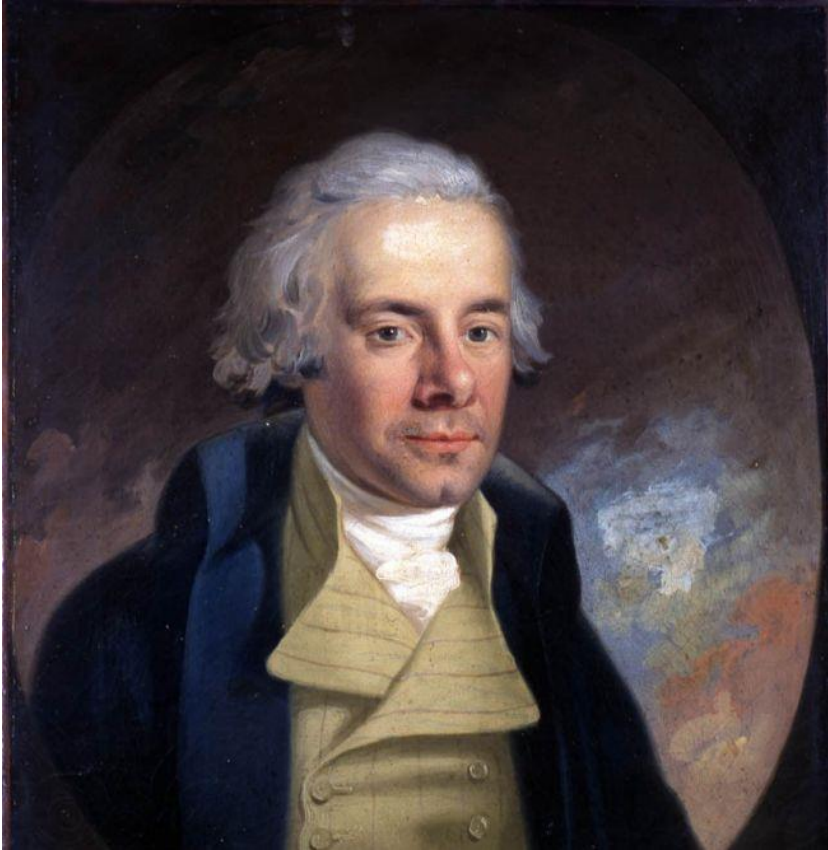
Dave Bookless: “Carey’s evangelicalism made him passionate about evangelism but equally, it convinced him that all truth was God’s truth and that scientific, linguistic and literary studies could only enhance the self-evident truths of the Gospel of Jesus Christ”

Good Examples:

Clapham Sect

- Loose association of evangelical Anglicans between 1790 – 1830.
- Committed to expository preaching, evangelism, and social concerns.
- But ... committed to protecting animals also.





Good Examples:

Clapham Sect: William Wilberforce

- Campaigned for the abolition of slavery.
- But ... founding member of Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA).
- His vision of a world in which all would care for one another, whether human or animal.

Good Examples:



Clapham Sect: Lord Shaftesbury

- At the forefront of the British and Foreign Bible Society, known as Bible Society today.
- Involved in the Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA).
- But ... also involved in the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

Good Examples:



Clapham Sect: Lord Shaftesbury

“I was convinced that God has called me to devote whatsoever advantages He might have bestowed upon me to the cause of the weak, the helpless, both man and beast.”

Good Examples

If missions is being sent out to
extend God's kingdom ...

And if God's kingdom includes
the redemption of creation ...

**Then missions must
include caring for creation!**



What Can We Do?

- Humans > Creation.



What Can We Do?

- Humans > Creation.
- 3 Rs: Read, Repent, Reset.



What Can We Do?

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC, 2021)

- Global surface temperature was 1.09C higher in the decade between 2011-2020 than between 1850-1900.
- The past five years have been the hottest on record since 1850.
- The recent rate of sea level rise has nearly tripled compared with 1901-1971.
- Human influence is "very likely" (90%) the main driver of the global retreat of glaciers since the 1990s and the decrease in Arctic sea-ice.
- It is "virtually certain" that hot extremes including heatwaves have become more frequent and more intense since the 1950s, while cold events have become less frequent and less severe.

What Can We Do?

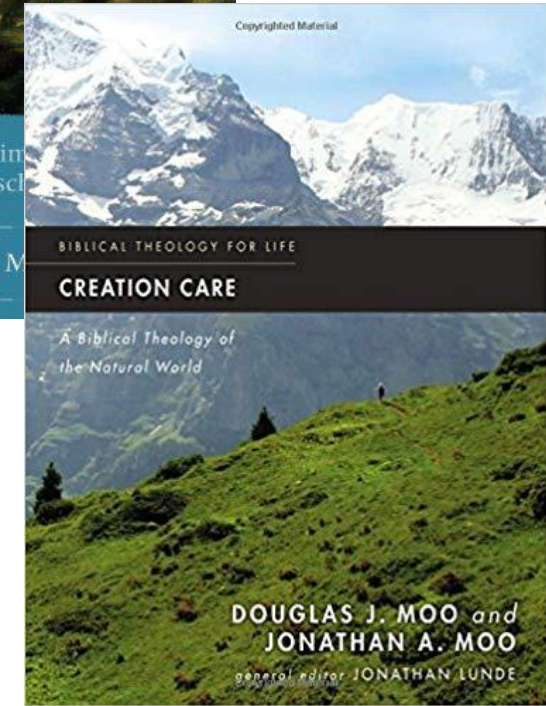
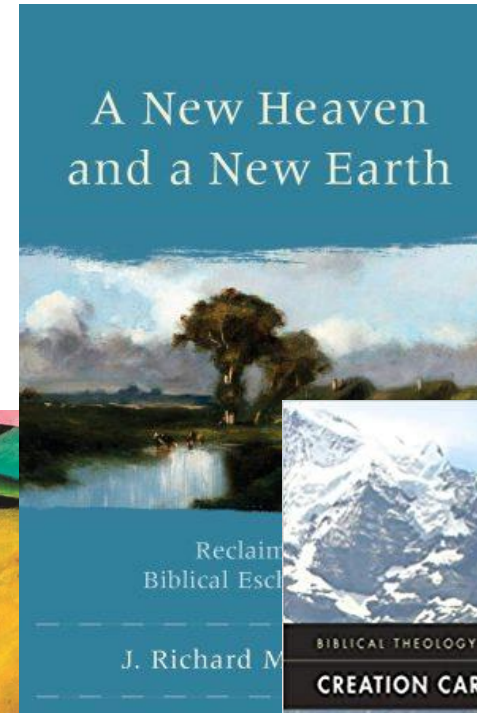
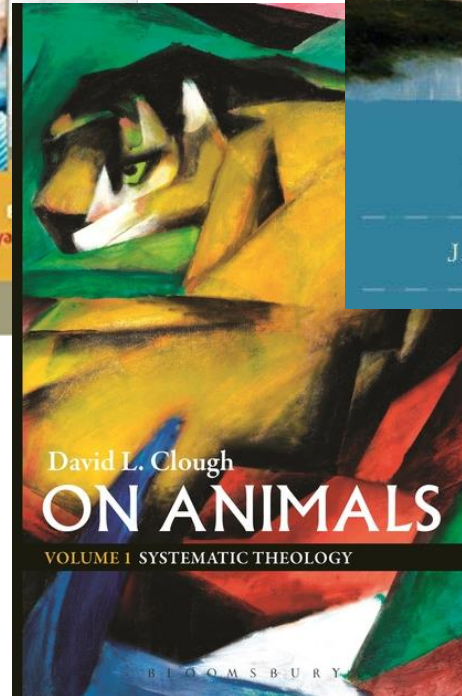
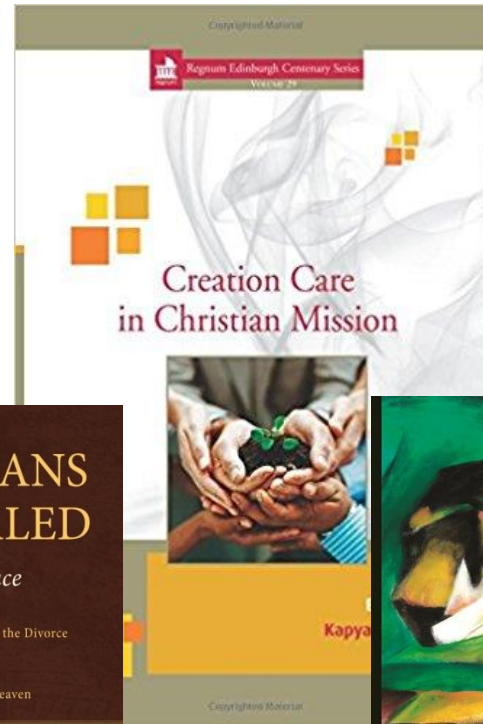
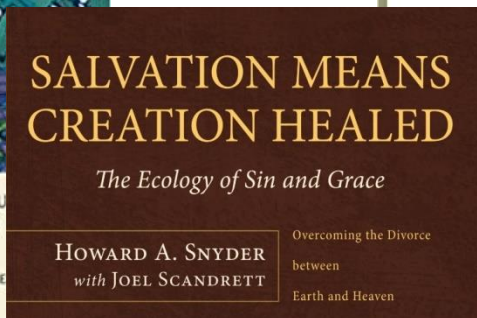
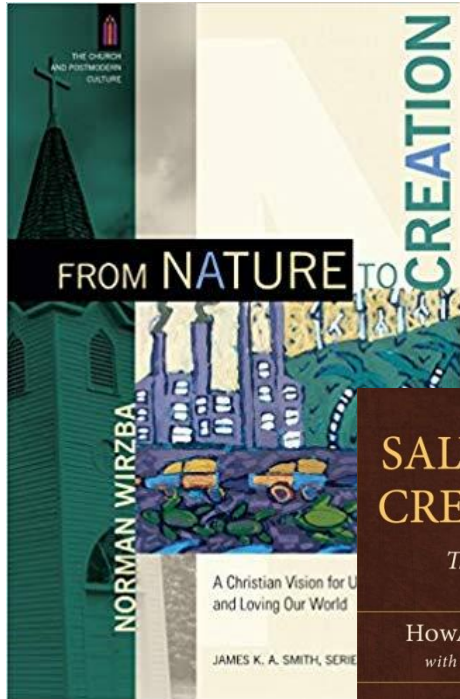
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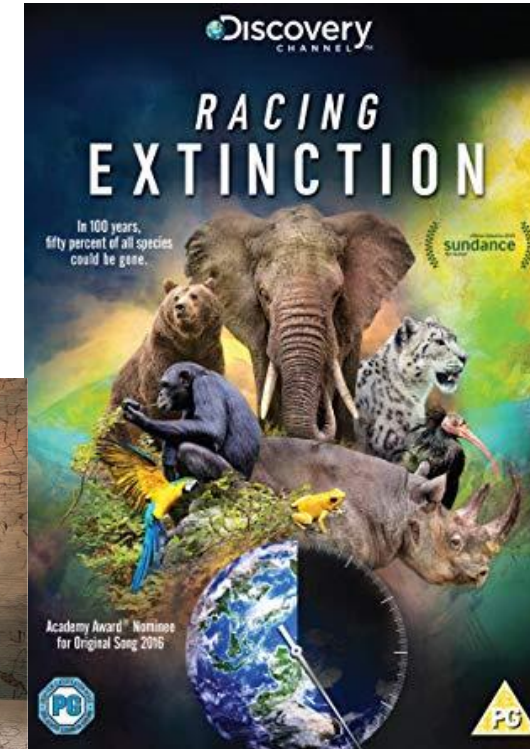
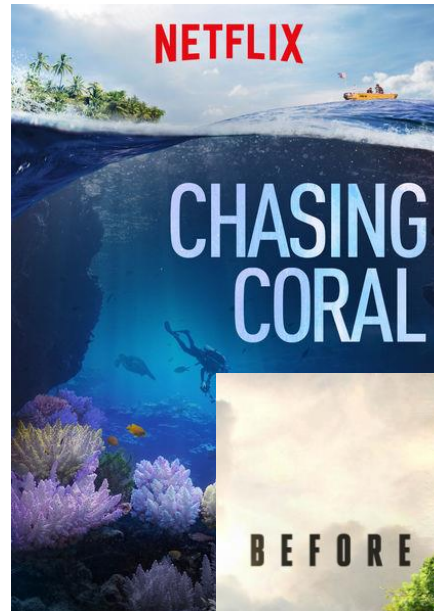
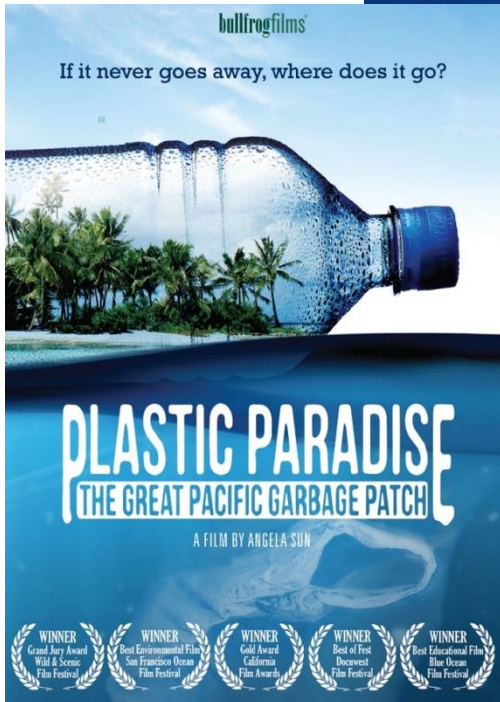
Resources: Helpful Articles

- Sandra Richter, A Biblical Theology of Creation Care
 - <http://place.asburyseminary.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1090&context=asburyjournal>
- Pope Francis, Laudato Si
 - http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/encyclicals/documents/papa-francesco_20150524_enciclica-laudato-si.pdf
- Howard Synder, Salvation Means Creation Healed
 - <http://place.asburyseminary.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1088&context=asburyjournal>

Resources: Books



Resources: Shows





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