

Notes for: Is God An Environmentalist?

A Topical Study

Introduction

God doesn't identify with New Age tree huggers (Romans 1:18-25)

Can we, should we, conclude from this that God doesn't care about the environment?

(1) The Mosaic Covenant Proves God's Care/Concern for the Environment

■ The Basic Premise of the Covenant

>> obey and be blessed (Deuteronomy 28:1)

>> disobey and be cursed (Deuteronomy 28:15)

■ The Historical Expression of the Covenant

>> The Assyrian Captivity of the Northern Kingdom of Israel

>> The Babylonian Captivity of the Southern Kingdom of Judah

■ The Warnings That Preceded The Judgement

>> Amos/Hosea warned Israel; while Isaiah/Jeremiah warned Judah

>> Repentance for idolatry and social injustice (Jeremiah 5:19-29; 7:5-11)

■ The Duration of the Judgement

>> Seventy Years (Jeremiah 25:11-12; 29:10)

>> Why? (Leviticus 25:1-5, 18-22; 2 Chronicles 36:15-22)

(2) Our Original Stewardship Proves God's Care/Concern for the Environment

■ The Stewardship Established in the Garden of Eden

>> Man made in God's image (Genesis 1:26a)

>> Man given rule over the earth (Genesis 1:26b)

>> Man loses rule over the earth (Genesis 3:17-19; Job 1:7,2:2; John 12:31,14:30,16:11)

■ The Stewardship Accounted for in the Tribulation

>> God reclaiming rule over the earth (Revelation 11:15-17)

>> God judging the misrule of the earth (Revelation 11:18)

Conclusion

The rationalizations, distortions and misinterpretations of 2 Peter 3:10-13 do not change the fact that God cares about the environment and most certainly expects us as His people, of all people, to care for it the way He cares for us. That means viewing it as a stewardship, so that we use it without abusing it, for His glory and the good of others!