

Real Climate Change

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Let's clarify climate change, global warming, carbon footprint, fossil fuels, greenhouse gases, sea levels rising, polar ice caps melting,

- not just these conditions, but the political mess that is attached to them
- Evil men using every possible means at their disposal to distract, discourage, cause fear, gain mastery, push their own agendas, accomplish their goals, get richer, stay in power and control

2Corinthians 2.11 *so that we would not be outwitted by Satan; for we are not ignorant of his designs.*

So, how do we understand all these things? What insight does the word of God give us on these subjects?

Romans 8.19-23 *For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God.*

eager longing - standing on its tiptoes, straining to see

revealing - revelation, unveiling, exposing

*20 For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope
21 that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God.*

22 For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now.

23 And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.

As Christians we have the God-given responsibility to use and care for creation in a way that brings honor and glory to the Creator. We are the stewards of the planet that God created to reveal His goodness and creative genius, the place where He placed man—who was created in His image for His pleasure and glory—to tend the garden that He created, doing our best to use the resources to further His kingdom and the platform from which we are to share the gospel to lost and dying men. This planet is the stage that He gave to us to use to reach the more-important creation—mankind—while they have life and the chance to respond to the mercy and love of God. So, the earth is not more important than the people living on the earth; the Creator is still in charge of the earth, its future, its sustainability, and its purpose in His plan. He alone knows the shelf-life of the earth; He alone controls the expiration date, and the earth will serve His sovereign purposes until it is time for it to be “regenerated.”

Matthew 19.28 *Jesus said to them, "Truly, I say to you, in the new world, [lit "in the regeneration"] when the Son of Man will sit on his glorious throne, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.*

When He is done with the earth in its present form He will “dissolve” it with fire; when it no longer is necessary to accomplish His perfect will, He will get it out of the way so that He can create new heavens and earth where there will be no touch of evil or death or destruction. It will be a perfect place

filled with perfect people who perfectly reflect the glory and majesty of an infinitely perfect God, and for all eternity we will live together in perfect harmony.

2Peter 3.10-13 *But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed.*

11 Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness,

12 waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn!

13 But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

God's plan for the future includes the ruin of planet earth: Why?
to judge the human race for the idolatry of "earth worship"?

Romans 1.18-25 *For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth.*

19 For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them.

*20 For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. **So, they are without excuse.***

21 For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened.

22 Claiming to be wise, they became fools,

23 and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.

24 Therefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, to the dishonoring of their bodies among themselves,

25 because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen.

to strike the idol of earth worship as He struck the Egyptian gods?

to again demonstrate His mastery over the land and the sea as He did with storm on Galilee?

to shake the human race's false confidence and security in their earthly home and remind them that this earth is not going to last forever?

to cause the human race to realize their need of a Savior and to respond to the call to salvation given over and over again throughout God's word

our argument is not about what methods God is using to ruin the earth or who is involved in that process

our burden is showing the world that they need to prepare for the next life, eternal life, where they will spend eternity

like arguing over whether we have properly organized the chairs on the deck of the Titanic . . .

Or whether everyone is in their proper seats with seat belts fastened and tray tables up as our plane has lost both engines and we are plummeting toward earth at a 1,000 mph

We are not ignorant of his strategies, designs, plans, deceits— **John 8.44** *“He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies.”*

If we were to look in scripture for other instances where God judged the environment and living conditions as well as the people to reveal His power and sovereign control, we would find it in Exodus - Plagues of judgment on Egypt and their gods - Exodus 7-12

1 Nile to blood - magicians copied; Pharaoh hardened heart

2 frogs everywhere - magicians copied; cheated; Pharaoh hardened heart; “so that you may know that there is no one like the LORD our God.”

3 gnats everywhere - “this is the finger of God”; cheated; Pharaoh hardened heart

4 flies everywhere - “land of Egypt ruined by flies”; cheated; Pharaoh hardened heart; God protected His people in Goshen from the flies

5 livestock die - Pharaoh hardened heart; God protected all livestock of His people in Goshen, not one died

6 boils - excruciating physical pain; God hardened Pharaoh’s heart;

7 hail - God warned, all who listened were spared, those who did not suffered great loss; cheated; Pharaoh hardened heart

Exodus 9.14-16 *For this time I will send all my plagues on you yourself, and on your servants and your people, so that you may know that there is none like me in all the earth.*

15 For by now I could have put out my hand and struck you and your people with pestilence, and you would have been cut off from the earth.

16 But for this purpose I have raised you up, to show you my power, so that my name may be proclaimed in all the earth.

8 locusts - destroyed Egypt, servants recognized it was the true God; cheated; God hardened Pharaoh’s heart;

Exodus 10.16-17 *Then Pharaoh hastily called Moses and Aaron and said, “I have sinned against the LORD your God, and against you.*

17 Now therefore, forgive my sin, please, only this once, and plead with the LORD your God only to remove this death from me.”

9 darkness - 3 days, God protected His people in Goshen; God hardened Pharaoh’s heart; “I never want to see your face again, when I do you will die; you will never see my face again”

10 death of firstborn - every unprepared home, including livestock;

Exodus 12.30 And there was a great cry in Egypt, for there was not a house where someone was not dead.

Exodus 14.4 And I will harden Pharaoh's heart, and he will pursue them, and I will get glory over Pharaoh and all his host, and the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD.”

What was the meaning and purpose of the ten plagues of Egypt?

(Taken from “GotQuestions.org)

The Ten Plagues of Egypt—also known as the Ten Plagues, the Plagues of Egypt, or the Biblical Plagues—are described in [Exodus 7—12](#). The plagues were ten disasters sent upon [Egypt](#) by God to convince Pharaoh to free the Israelite slaves from the bondage and oppression they had endured in Egypt for 400 years. When God sent Moses to deliver the children of Israel from bondage in Egypt, He promised to show His wonders as confirmation of Moses’ authority ([Exodus 3:20](#)). This confirmation was to serve at least two purposes: to show the Israelites that the God of their fathers was alive and

worthy of their worship ([Exodus 6:6–8](#); [12:25–27](#)) and to show the Egyptians that their gods were nothing ([Exodus 7:5](#); [12:12](#); [Numbers 33:4](#)).

The Israelites had been enslaved in Egypt for about 400 years and in that time had lost faith in the God of their fathers. They believed He existed and worshiped Him, but they doubted that He could, or would, break the yoke of their bondage. The Egyptians, like many pagan cultures, worshiped a wide variety of nature-gods and attributed to their powers the natural phenomena they saw in the world around them. There was a god of the sun, of the river, of childbirth, of crops, etc. Events like the annual flooding of the Nile, which fertilized their croplands, were evidences of their gods' powers and good will. When Moses approached Pharaoh, demanding that he let the people go, Pharaoh responded by saying, "Who is the Lord, that I should obey his voice to let Israel go? I know not the Lord, neither will I let Israel go" ([Exodus 5:2](#)). Thus began the challenge to show whose God was more powerful.

The first plague, turning the Nile to blood, was a judgment against Apis, the god of the Nile, Isis, goddess of the Nile, and Khnum, guardian of the Nile. The Nile was also believed to be the bloodstream of Osiris, who was reborn each year when the river flooded. The river, which formed the basis of daily life and the national economy, was devastated, as millions of fish died in the river and the water was unusable. Pharaoh was told, "By this you will know that I am the LORD" ([Exodus 7:17](#)).

The second plague, bringing frogs from the Nile, was a judgment against Heqet, the frog-headed goddess of birth. Frogs were thought to be sacred and not to be killed. God had the frogs invade every part of the homes of the Egyptians, and when the frogs died, their stinking bodies were heaped up in offensive piles all through the land ([Exodus 8:13–14](#)).

The third plague, gnats, was a judgment on Set, the god of the desert. Unlike the previous plagues, the magicians were unable to duplicate this one and declared to Pharaoh, "This is the [finger of God](#)" ([Exodus 8:19](#)).

The fourth plague, flies, was a judgment on Uatchit, the fly god. In this plague, God clearly distinguished between the Israelites and the Egyptians, as no swarms of flies bothered the areas where the Israelites lived ([Exodus 8:21–24](#)).

The fifth plague, the death of livestock, was a judgment on the goddess Hathor and the god Apis, who were both depicted as cattle. As with the previous plague, God protected His people from the plague, while the cattle of the Egyptians died. God was steadily destroying the economy of Egypt, while showing His ability to protect and provide for those who obeyed Him. Pharaoh even sent investigators ([Exodus 9:7](#)) to find out if the Israelites were suffering along with the Egyptians, but the result was a hardening of his heart against the Israelites.

The sixth plague, boils, was a judgment against several gods over health and disease (Sekhmet, Sunu, and Isis). This time, the Bible says that [the magicians](#) "could not stand before Moses because of the boils." Clearly, these religious leaders were powerless against the God of Israel.

Before God sent the last three plagues, Pharaoh was given a special message from God. These plagues would be more severe than the others, and they were designed to convince Pharaoh and all the people "that there is none like me in all the earth" ([Exodus 9:14](#)). Pharaoh was even told that he was placed in

his position by God, so that God could show His power and declare His name through all the earth ([Exodus 9:16](#)). As an example of His grace, God warned Pharaoh to gather whatever cattle and crops remained from the previous plagues and shelter them from the coming storm. Some of Pharaoh's servants heeded the warning ([Exodus 9:20](#)), while others did not. The seventh plague, hail, attacked Nut, the sky goddess; Osiris, the crop fertility god; and Set, the storm god. This hail was unlike any that had been seen before. It was accompanied by a fire which ran along the ground, and everything left out in the open was devastated by the hail and fire. Again, the children of Israel were miraculously protected, and no hail damaged anything in their lands.

Before God brought the next plague, He told Moses that the Israelites would be able to tell their children of the things they had seen God do in Egypt and how it showed them God's power. The eighth plague, locusts, again focused on Nut, Osiris, and Set. The later crops, wheat and rye, which had survived the hail, were now devoured by the swarms of locusts. There would be no harvest in Egypt that year.

The ninth plague, darkness, was aimed at the sun god, Re, who was symbolized by Pharaoh himself. For three days, the land of Egypt was smothered with an unearthly darkness, but the homes of the Israelites had light.

The tenth and last plague, the [death of the firstborn males](#), was a judgment on Isis, the protector of children. In this plague, God was teaching the Israelites a deep spiritual lesson that pointed to Christ. Unlike the other plagues, which the Israelites survived by virtue of their identity as God's people, this plague required an act of faith by them. God commanded each family to take an unblemished male lamb and kill it. The blood of the lamb was to be smeared on the top and sides of their doorways, and the lamb was to be roasted and eaten that night. Any family that did not follow God's instructions would suffer in the last plague. God described how He would send the destroyer through the land of Egypt, with orders to slay the firstborn male in every household, whether human or animal. The only protection was the blood of the lamb on the door. When the destroyer saw the blood, he would pass over that house and leave it untouched ([Exodus 12:23](#)). This is where the term *Passover* comes from. Passover is a memorial of that night in ancient Egypt when God delivered His people from bondage. [First Corinthians 5:7](#) teaches that Jesus became our Passover when He died to deliver us from the bondage of sin. While the Israelites found God's protection in their homes, every other home in the land of Egypt experienced God's wrath as their loved ones died. This grievous event caused Pharaoh to finally release the Israelites.

By the time the Israelites left Egypt, they had a clear picture of God's power, God's protection, and God's plan for them. For those who were willing to believe, they had convincing evidence that they served the true and living God. Sadly, many still failed to believe, which led to other trials and lessons by God. The result for the Egyptians and the other ancient people of the region was a dread of the God of Israel. Even after the tenth plague, Pharaoh once again hardened his heart and sent his chariots after the Israelites. When God opened a way [through the Red Sea](#) for the Israelites, then drowned all of Pharaoh's armies there, the power of Egypt was crushed, and the fear of God spread through the surrounding nations ([Joshua 2:9–11](#)). This was the very purpose that God had declared at the beginning. We can still look back on these events today to confirm our faith in, and our fear of, this true and living God, the Judge of all the earth.