

Global Warming: Embracing a gloriously warm future!



God's hand at
work redeeming
the universe from
sin and bondage
(and cold
weather)

By Craig R. Dumont, Sr.

Over the past several years a cacophony of voices have filled the print and broadcast media with prophecies of doomsday scenarios based upon the possibility that the earth may be experiencing a warming trend. Typical is the end-times vision of Environmental Defense, an organization dedicated specifically to warning about and stopping global warming. Their web-site sets forth the following dangers of a warming earth:

The consequences of continued warming at current rates are likely to be dire. Many densely populated areas, such as low-lying coastal regions, are highly vulnerable to climate shifts. A middle-of-the-range projection is that the homes of 13 to 88 million people around the world would be flooded by the sea each year in the 2080s. Poorer countries and small island nations will have the hardest time adapting. (McLean et al. 2001) In what appears to be the first forced move resulting from climate change, 100 residents of Tegua island in the Pacific Ocean were evacuated by the government because rising sea levels were flooding their island. Some 2,000 other islanders plan a similar move to escape rising waters.

Scarcity of water and food could lead to major conflicts with broad ripple effects throughout the globe. Even if people find a way to adapt, the wildlife and plants on which we depend may be unable to adapt to rapid climate change. While the world itself will not end, the world as we know it may disappear.¹

Time Magazine recently devoted an entire issue to the phenomena with a frightening cover explaining why we should "Be Worried. Be Very Worried." The cover featured a photo of a polar bear adrift and stranded helplessly on an ice float.² Time Magazine has been joined by others such as former Vice-President Al Gore who have thrown aside any restraint and have predicted that the world will most likely be irreversibly damaged within ten years if no remedial action is taken. In fact, Mr. Gore has produced and starred in a documentary on global warming titled *An Inconvenient Truth*.³ The Washington Post reports that,

Gore argues — with scientific evidence projected on big screens at his back — that global warming may soon lead to catastrophic sea level rises, which could inundate cities such as New York (flooding the former site of

the World Trade Center), producing scary nonlinear runaway spasms of extreme weather (bigger, badder hurricanes and typhoons), global pandemics and, depending on where you live, torrential rains or decade-long drought. It is not a pretty picture.⁴

Admittedly global warming is not only possible, but a reality. Jonah Goldberg, a critic of the global warming apocalyptic creed, admits that “it’s true that Earth has gotten warmer — one degree since the 19th century — and it will probably get warmer still.”⁵ Many, if not most, climatologists agree that the earth, for whatever reason, is experiencing a warming trend and in many places the change in temperature is much more than one degree.⁶



This is how the warming of the earth is portrayed . . .

Some evangelical Christian leaders striving to show that they too are relevant and worried have recently jumped into the debate. Unfortunately they have skipped over an amazing opportunity to demonstrate that theology should be reinstated as the ‘queen of the sciences’ and instead have contributed nothing but fearful analysis. With fear trumping faith, high profile Christian authors and leaders such as Rick Warren prophecy that unless we take immediate action “millions of people could die in this century because of climate change, most of them our poorest global neighbors.”⁷

Nevertheless, Christian pastors and leaders should be the last ones to expect or defend a static environment and should not be surprised by the prospect of progressive climate change. Rick Warren and the 85 other “Global Climate Initiative” signers to the contrary,⁸ Christians should not only be optimistic and hopeful about the likelihood that global warming *is* taking place, but interpret the forecast (no pun intended) as an *aspect of grace* in God’s ongoing redemption of the entire earth and an act of goodwill toward the poor!⁹ The great Christian hope is not only the salvation of the individual, or even of the human race, but God’s promise through Christ to redeem and restore all of creation to a pre-fall condition (or better).¹⁰

Paul tells us in Romans 8:19-22 that sin has touched every part of creation and it was subjected to futility due to man’s fall. However “the creation itself will be delivered from the bondage of corruption” beginning with the resurrection of Christ and expanding as God’s people increase in numbers through the centuries.

For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God. For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it in hope; because the creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now.

Isaac Watts captured the scope of this declaration of liberation with his famous and powerful hymn, Joy to the World. Watts would not have been surprised to hear talk of a radical change in the environment, he would have only been stunned by the current Christian leadership’s fear of it! In the third verse to his song Watts prophecies the earth’s deliverance “from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God”:

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, Far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as, the curse is found.

Watts was expressing the Biblical promise that “where sin abounds, grace does much more abound.” This being the case, then in terms of the redemption of the universe viewed through the prism of Christ’s resurrection, how should Christians interpret global warming trends? Dr. Arthur B. Robinson and other Christian researchers see the increase in CO2 levels as a very good development. Writing in a scientific paper refuting the Kyoto doomsday scenarios, these researchers point out the following:

To be sure, CO₂ levels have increased substantially since the Industrial Revolution, and are expected to continue doing so. It is reasonable to believe that humans have been responsible for much of this increase. But the effect on the environment is likely to be benign. Greenhouse gases cause plant life, and the animal life that depends upon it, to thrive. What mankind is doing is liberating carbon from beneath the Earth's surface and putting it into the atmosphere, where it is available for conversion into living organisms.¹¹

Sixty-five years ago two Christian men collaborated on one of the outstanding scientific works of their era, writing a book that provided the foundation for what we now call "creation science." John C. Whitcomb's and Henry M. Morris's **The Genesis Flood: The Biblical Record and its Scientific Implications** has an excellent section dealing with the earth's atmosphere and weather conditions before the flood and it provides fascinating insight into how Christ may now be restoring the "universally warm climate" that then existed.¹²

Whitcomb and Morris, surveying the entire field of climatology,¹³ provide ample information on what the earth's climate must have been like five thousand years ago. The almost unanimous conclusion of all the "experts" is that the earth must have been much warmer than now. Further, they also give a strongly documented assessment of why the earth was warmer and they call this "The Greenhouse Effect."

All that is necessary [for an actual change in the amount of solar energy utilized on the earth in the process of atmospheric heating] is for there to be a change in the heat-absorbing and reflecting qualities of that atmosphere, and this could be accomplished by relatively minor changes in its composition. This is because of the "greenhouse effect" of the atmosphere. Harold Blum [author of *Time's Arrow and Evolution*, published by Princeton University Press in 1951-*crd*] gives a cogent description of the key factors in this effect:

The principal atmospheric absorber for the entrant sunlight is water vapor . . . Absorption of the outgoing radiation from the earth is again largely due to water vapor, with CO₂ and ozone playing lesser roles . . .

These three constituents of the atmosphere—water vapor, ozone, and carbon dioxide—therefore, supply the blanketing effect whereby the sun's radiation becomes effectively available for the maintenance of physical and biological processes on the earth.

. . . Since water vapor is the most important of these three gasses in producing the greenhouse effect, it would seem reasonable that any substantial change in the earth's climate must somehow be related to changes in the water vapor content of the atmosphere. More water vapor would create a warmer and more uniform climate.¹⁴

While "the principal atmospheric absorber" is water vapor (which I'll return to), carbon dioxide is clearly an important element and it is the one most often discussed in relationship to global warming today. Unfortunately, prophets of doom, seeing all things through a worldview that posits man as an interloper on an otherwise pristine (and holy) world, have managed to distort the issue and create a culture of fear, blaming mankind and progress what they say will be a terrible future.

There are several things that should be pointed out to the neysayers. First, rising levels of CO₂ is a very good thing for the planet as Dr. Gilbert Plass of Johns Hopkins University pointed out way back in 1956 in studies conducted for the Office of Naval Research. Without endorsing his evolutionary explanation regarding plant life, it's worth quoting him at some length.

There is some interesting evidence which suggests that the carbon dioxide content of the atmosphere was once much larger than at present. **It is known that plants grow more luxuriantly and rapidly in an atmosphere that has from five to ten times the normal carbon dioxide amount.** In fact, carbon dioxide is some-



. . . but this is the actual results of global warming.

times released in greenhouses in order to promote growth. Since plants are perfectly adapted to make maximum use of the spectral range and intensity of the light that reaches them from the sun for photosynthesis, it seems strange that they are not better adapted to the present carbon dioxide content in the atmosphere. The simplest explanation of this fact is that the plants evolved at a **time when the carbon dioxide concentration was considerably higher than it is today** and that it has been at a higher level during most of the ensuing time. Higher temperatures than today during most of the earth's history would have resulted from this higher carbon dioxide content. In fact, the geological evidence shows that warmer climates than today have existed for at least nine-tenths of the time since the Cambrian period.¹⁵ [emphasis mine]

Again, all current research indicates that Dr. Plass is on target when he envisions a much more luxuriant planet with increased CO₂: "Greenhouse gases cause plant life, and the animal life that depends upon it, to thrive."

The idea that climate conditions were far different thousands of years ago should come as no surprise to Christians. The Bible tells us that the earth was created "very good" and brought forth its fruit much easier before the fall. After sin entered, God cursed the ground and reduced its production as described in Genesis 3:17-19:

Then to Adam He said, "Because you have heeded the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree of which I commanded you, saying, 'You shall not eat of it': "Cursed is the ground for your sake; In toil you shall eat of it All the days of your life. Both thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you, And you shall eat the herb of the field. In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread Till you return to the ground, For out of it you were taken; For dust you are, And to dust you shall return."

God's curse would account for much of the lack of production in photosynthesis Plass now finds puzzling. Plass, with a non-Biblical outlook on life, sees plant life as somehow evolving during ages distinguished by high levels of carbon dioxide up until today where they are not functioning as they should under much lower levels—in other words, disconnected from any ethical/moral condition of man. However, the Christian has been told that God created a perfect world—a perfect "greenhouse" with up to five times the levels of CO₂ in the atmosphere as compared to now, according to all the evidence—and that sin dramatically changed all things—"the creation was subjected to futility." Additionally, a world-wide flood would have dramatically altered the climatic conditions as well, with much carbon dioxide stored up, waiting for God, "who subjected [the earth] in hope," to release it into the atmosphere, "because the creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption."

The good news of course is that He appears to be doing just that and there is much work to be done! "Today, nearly 60 percent of the earth's surface is not suitable for human habitation. Vast areas of the planet are covered with arctic barrens and arid deserts."¹⁶ But global warming is changing that dramatically. Documenting "the bright side of global warming," Lauren Etter writes about the "genesis" taking place in warming climates.

Stefan Magnusson lives at the foot of a giant, melting glacier. Some think he's living on the brink of a cataclysm. He believes he's on the cusp of creation.

The 49-year-old reindeer rancher says a warming trend in Greenland over the past decade has caused the glacier on his farm to retreat 300 feet, revealing land that hasn't seen the light of day for hundreds of years, if not more. Where ice once gripped the earth, he says, his reindeer now graze on wild thyme amid the purple blooms of Niviarsiaq flowers.

The melting glacier near Mr. Magnusson's home is pouring more water into the river, which he hopes soon to harness for hydroelectricity.

"We are seeing genesis by the edge of the glacier," he says.

Average temperatures in Greenland have risen by 2.7 degrees Fahrenheit over the past 30 years — more than double the global average, according to the Danish Meteorological Institute. By the end of the century, the institute projects, temperatures could rise another 14 degrees.

The milder weather is promoting new life on the fringes of this barren, arctic land. Swans have been spotted recently for the first time, ducks aren't flying south for the winter anymore and poplar trees have suddenly begun flowering.¹⁷

Canada and Peru are also benefiting greatly from the rebirth and renewal of formerly barren land. "For every 1.8 degrees of warming, Canada's wine-growing region can expand 120 miles northward as the climate becomes suitable for growing wine grapes, according to David Phillips, the Canadian government's senior climatologist," while Anton Seimon, a Peruvian climate scientist, is amazed that farmers are now able to cultivate crops far up in the Andes, with potato fields established at 15,000 feet.¹⁸

The "good news" of global warming was actually reported back in 2004. Writing in the *International Herald Tribune*, Andrew C. Revkin reported on the changing climate in the Arctic.

The potential benefits of the changes include projected growth in marine fish stocks and improved prospects for agriculture and timber harvests in some regions, as well as expanded access to Arctic waters.

There, sea-bed deposits of oil and gas that have until now been cloaked in thick shifting crusts of sea ice could soon be exploitable, and ice-free trade routes over Siberia could significantly cut shipping distances between Europe and Asia in the summer.¹⁹

While many today focus on man's part in contributing to the increase of CO₂ and the supposed destruction that will accompany it, the reality is that creation is responding to God's word of healing and redemption in Christ. God is unleashing an incredible blessing upon mankind by slowly but surely releasing the earth's stored up supply of carbon dioxide and a "genesis" is transpiring before man's eyes. As Isaiah prophesied thousands of years ago, "Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress tree, and instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle tree; and it shall be to the Lord for a name, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off."²⁰

Even the National Geographic Society, an organization that constantly publishes warnings about the dangers of global warming, has to recognize this "sign" of God.

For most of the world's plant life, the effect of the pace of climate change over the past two decades has been productive, according to an analysis of climate and satellite data collected between 1982 and 1999.

The research, reported in the June 6 issue of *Science*, addresses the question of how global vegetation has responded to changes in precipitation, temperature, and cloud cover patterns. Such climate factors determine how vegetation grows.

Previous studies have looked at vegetation's response to climate change at regional scales, but this is the first study to look at it from a global perspective.

"This is the first global representation of climate changes and how they might influence vegetation," said Ramakrishna Nemani, a climate change researcher at the University of Montana in Missoula who led the study.

According to the analysis, global climate change has eased climatic constraints on plant life around the globe, allowing vegetation to increase 6 percent over the study period . . . Owing to the added sunshine, photosynthesis has been rampant.²¹

No doubt atmospheric conditions that blanketed our planet early in its history changed tremendously with an incredible drop of CO₂ that most likely followed the Flood. Atmospheric levels of carbon dioxide would have been dramatically lowered due to "tremendous quantities that had been used in the newly formed coal and oil deposits,"²² resources that are now being utilized by man with a resultant increase in CO₂ liberated back into the atmosphere. But amazingly, "one particular biological mechanism may have acted to contribute an abnormally large amount of carbon dioxide, namely the development of bogs," and the peat bogs of the world are huge!²³



Fish are returning to warmer waters in such numbers that it amazes local fishermen. "We have never seen them before in this amount." say one fisherman in Greenland. He expects to catch 150 times the amount of fish this year as compared to just three years ago. [See endnote number 19]

According to the Canadian Sphagnum Peat Moss Association (CSPMA), currently there are more than 270,000,000 acres of peat bogs in Canada alone,²⁴ and some have estimated that Russia has at least twice that amount.²⁵ According to the CSPMA, "peat is renewable and in terms of its accumulation, peat in Canada is growing more than 70 times as fast as it is being harvested."²⁶ As the association points out, these bogs are excellent at filtering water and they accumulate carbon, thus they provide a fantastic habitat for flora and fauna.

Peat bogs are now being aggressively harvested,²⁷ releasing stored up carbon into the atmosphere, but even without the harvesting, the bogs are major contributors in the rising levels of CO₂. A very small increase in the world's temperature—an increase that could be caused by any number of things, may have initiated the oxidation of the world's huge peat bogs. "The warming of the worlds climate since the last century may well have set a slow fire to the peat, simply by favoring surface oxidation by soil bacteria . . . ***it is not impossible that carbon dioxide added to the earth's atmosphere may have come mainly from peat and humus.***"²⁸ [emphais mine] Thus, the very bogs that radical "environmentalists" are trying to keep off limits to man by "increas[ing] the number of protected mires" and promoting "special mire conservation programmes"²⁹ actually contribute the most to global warming.³⁰

The fear that increased carbon dioxide levels will wreck havoc on the earth and its inhabitants is non-sense.³¹ The Christian view should be that God is fulfilling His promise not to destroy the earth, but to redeem and restore it to its original glory and is liberating its pent up resources to produce to its full potential. Beginning at the fall of man and culminating with the Flood, God shut up the elements which had been so crucial in producing "a luxuriant greenhouse." But commencing with the resurrection of Christ from the grave God is progressively restoring through and to the Second Adam what the First Adam lost, which includes an earth that can and does produce "exceedingly, abundantly above what you can ask or think!" This at least potentially requires the reestablishment of much higher levels of CO₂, so we should be anticipating the blessings associated with this phenomenon rather than working to stop the dynamic salvation of our Lord.

But if global warming is to become a reality, at least one more major factor needs to fall into place. As mentioned

earlier, while CO₂ levels are important, the most vital element is water vapor, and “[s]ince water vapor is the most important of these three gasses in producing the greenhouse effect, it would seem reasonable that any substantial change in the earth’s climate must somehow be related to changes in the water vapor content of the atmosphere. More water vapor would create a warmer and more uniform climate.”

Interestingly enough, the amount of water does play a factor in the scenarios set forth by those terrified of global warming. Specifically, the official line is that global warming will melt the ice caps, flooding the oceans and raising sea levels, thereby wiping out huge chunks of land.³² One government official recently expressed his fears about global flooding when he stated that “he worries about the places that may be engulfed by the sea if Greenland’s glaciers melt. ‘When the seas rise just one meter, it will be a big catastrophe,’ he says.”³³

However, there are scenarios other than seas rising to dangerous levels if global warming becomes a reality. One very plausible Biblically-based theory is that the melting ice will evaporate and return to the atmosphere in a way that would restore what some prominent Christian scholars believe was a vapor canopy that covered the earth before the Flood. Joseph C. Dillow sets forth the model scientific model and the conditions required for a pre-Flood vapor canopy.

The pre-Flood earth was enveloped in a thermal vapor blanket capable of precipitating many feet of water which condensed in the recent geological past in 40 days due to volcanic eruption, resulting in a geographically universal flood . . . This pre-Flood atmosphere contained sufficient water vapor to sustain a 40-day-and-night rainfall of about 0.5 inches per hour.³⁴

Dillow estimates the vapor blanket would have been at least 40 feet thick and quotes Genesis 7:11 & 12 in his comments on the huge amount of water that must have existed in both the upper atmosphere and the ground below.

In the six hundredth year of Noah’s life, in the second month, the seventeenth day of the month, on that day all the fountains of the great deep were broken up, *and the windows of heaven were opened*. And the rain was on the earth forty days and forty nights.

Studying the effect the Flood had upon the earth, Dillow writes that “the sheer amount of water necessary to sustain a torrential downpour for 40 days required a massive amount of water”³⁵ in the “waters which were above” that God had created on the second day.³⁶

Since the “principal atmospheric absorber for the entrant sunlight is water vapor” it would seem likely that much more water would need to be in the atmosphere than is now present if the world is to continue to warm at an accelerated pace. Therefore, as the initial warming may have occurred because of the increase of CO₂, future rises in temperature will probably take place because the warmer air can absorb and hold more water vapor rather than condensing and returning to the seas. The increased moisture, or water vapor, now can serve as the “principal atmospheric absorber” of sunlight, thus increasing the earth’s temperature even more, allowing even more water to be absorbed.

Rather than overflowing oceans resulting in land decimated by floods, we have atmospheric conditions that allow excess moisture to be used to create a much better climate for man and the earth. Richard Lindzen, an MIT professor and one of the most highly respected atmospheric scientists in the world, says exactly that.

If the models are correct, global warming reduces the temperature differences between the poles and the equator. When you have less difference in temperature, you have less excitation of extratropical storms, not more. And, in fact, model runs support this conclusion. Alarmists have drawn some support for increased claims of tropical storminess from a casual claim by Sir John Houghton of the U.N.’s Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) that a warmer world would have more evaporation, with latent heat providing more energy for disturbances. The problem with this is that the ability of evaporation to drive tropical storms relies not only on temperature but humidity as well, and calls for drier, less humid air. Claims for starkly higher temperatures are based upon there being more humidity, not less—hardly a case for more storminess with global warming.³⁷

Even in the “alarmist” camp the prediction is for higher temperatures producing more evaporation and increases in humidity, removing water from the oceans and being absorbed by the atmosphere. Because this “warmer world” will have far more evaporation, sea levels will probably not be affected at all. Realistically the increased evaporation could lower the levels, freeing up huge tracks of land that could be incredibly productive.³⁸ Ironically, once temperatures rise and humidity increases, the world’s weather will be much more stable, and as Lindzen points out, this is good news, not bad!

The exciting aspect of this is that Christians may be seeing the reestablishment of the conditions needed to fulfill the promises God set forth through the prophet Isaiah. The benefits of the gospel, God says, include a much longer life span, life spans that are equivalent to those enjoyed by pre-Flood man. “No more shall an infant from there live but a few days, nor an old man who has not fulfilled his days; For the child shall die one hundred years old, but the sinner being one hundred years old shall be accursed.”³⁹

Even today we are seeing the lengthening of life spans to where it no longer is unusual for a person to celebrate his or her 100th birthday. However, “prior to the Flood, men lived an average of 912 years, but immediately after the Flood, longevity began to decline exponentially.”⁴⁰ It would seem logical that if man were to once again live to these advanced ages the pre-Flood conditions would have to be reestablished. Thankfully, the factors that contribute to global warming are the same ones that create far more favorable conditions for man’s health and longevity. The human body functions at a far higher and more proficient manner under the conditions required for sustain a warmer world—a world that more closely resembles that which existed before the Great Deluge.

For example, if the earth in fact did form a vapor canopy through evaporation, there would be a “greenhouse effect” put in motion allowing a far greater yield of food with more nutrients. But this would be minor in importance compared to the increase in atmospheric pressure. In effect, global warming would produce a world wide hyperbaric chamber in which “red blood cells fill much quicker with oxygen and the extra oxygen dissolves directly into the blood fluid. [In a short time], this extra oxygen builds up tissue oxygen levels far above normal.”⁴¹

Regarding the potential benefits we would receive if we lived in an atmosphere with higher pressure, Dillow writes,

There is evidence that higher oxygen tension can be decidedly beneficial to biological systems. When a team of aquanauts was submerged in a diving bell for two weeks at 10 atmospheres, a striking healing occurred after one of them severely cut his hand. It was reported that the wound healed completely in 24 hours. It was theorized that the reason for this was that the higher oxygen tension created a greater diffusion driving force and imparted more oxygen at a greater rate into the wound. As a result, experiments in high-pressure surgery were begun, and hyperbaric surgery is now a common practice in certain situations. Also, it has been discovered that an effective treatment for some kinds of gangrene is to place the patient in a high pressure chamber for a period of time. Thus, it would seem that a higher atmospheric pressure could have resulted in conditions that were favorable for the cure of some illnesses, and hence could have some bearing on longevity of life indicated in Genesis 5.”⁴²

The University of California maintains a large hyperbaric chamber and it claims that “the combination of high pressure and increased oxygen levels have achieved astounding results.”⁴³ Today there are large amounts of professional medical literature available discussing the various benefits of utilizing a hyperbaric chamber.

The principle is simple. Increase the atmospheric pressure and get a directly proportional increase in available oxygen. In other words, a twofold increase in pressure equals twice the available oxygen molecules to breathe. Dillow believes the pre-Flood atmospheric pressure weighed in at 2.18 times what we live with today (pun intended), so almost 220% more oxygen would be available if those conditions were recreated. 2.18 times our current levels is the apparent optimum point that provides all the benefits while staving off any of the pitfalls of higher, artificially introduced levels.⁴⁴

Longevity and aging is a mystery even with all of the intense research into the various factors involved. Of course the Christian must also take into account the ethical consequences associated with God’s law—as the apostle Paul notes

in Ephesians 6:2-3— “Honor your father and mother,” which is the first commandment with promise: “that it may be well with you and you may live long on the earth.”

Our behavior and attitude at the Lord’s table also determines our length of days, because “whoever eats this bread or drinks this cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord’s body. For this reason many are weak and sick among you, and many sleep.”⁴⁵

I admit that there are perhaps too many factors for man to account for when considering the possibilities of living to 900. However the Christian’s faith and anticipation is that God is true to His word and He will fulfill His promises. One of the exciting promises He has given us is that He will recreate (or create completely new) conditions in which the earth will bring forth the fullness of abundance for which it was created and that man may live to his full number of years, that if a man dies at 100 he will seem like a baby. The onset of global warming should not alarm the Christian, but should cause him to rejoice as God’s Spirit moves upon the face of the earth, changing all things to the good of those who confess Christ and place their confidence in Him. The Christian sees redemption and glory in these amazing changes, not destruction and death.

While many have bought into the idea that Satan is alive and well on planet earth—and that global warming is simply one indication of that—that is not only mistaken, but unBiblical! Christ and Christ alone reigns “For it pleased the Father that in Him all the fullness should dwell, and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross.”⁴⁶ May God teach us to rejoice in the fullness of the salvation message and may “perfect love cast out all fear.”

I not only believe in global warming, I’m praying for it to †“even so, come quickly” to Michigan!

Craig R. Dumont is the founder and Senior Pastor of Okemos Christian Center in Okemos, MI. He also serves as the Vice President of the Center for Cultural Leadership (www.ChristianCulture.com) and is a frequent speaker at conferences around the country. He can be contacted at Craig@OkemosChristianCenter.com.



For every 1.8 degrees of warming, Canada’s wine-growing region can expand 120 miles northward as the climate becomes suitable for growing wine grapes.

(Endnotes)

¹ www.fightglobalwarming.com

² Time Magazine, April 3, 2006. Interestingly, the caption under the headline reads “Climate change isn’t some vague future problem—it’s already damaging the planet at an alarming pace. Here’s how it affects you, your kids and their kids as well.” The same people who are terrified about the future health of our planet are for the most part the ones who have pushed strongly for a “culture of death,” championing unassailable abortion laws and national population policies that would make it difficult for anyone to see or think past their own lifetime, or if they do, certainly not with any concern for their children, and heaven help them, grandchildren.

³ For another take on global warming after viewing Mr. Gore’s movie, see the Business World article in the May 32, 2006 Wall St. Journal by Holman W. Jenkins Jr. titled “Warmed Over.”

⁴ Al Gore, Sundance’s Leading Man; William Booth, The Washington Post, January, 26, 2006.

⁵ Jonah Goldberg, Seattle Times; Monday, April 24, 2006

⁶ Lauren Etter, Feeling the Heat: For Icy Greenland, Global Warming Has a Bright Side; July 18, 2006, Wall St. Journal. In the article Etter notes that Greenland has experienced almost a three degree increase in temperature over the past 30 years. Of note, everywhere temperatures have increased more than one degree, great benefits as opposed to great tragedy has followed.

⁷ Evangelical Leaders Join Global Warming Initiative, Laurie Goodstein; New York Times, February 8, 2006

⁸ For complete document and full listing of names of those endorsing it see <http://www.christiansandclimate.org/statement>.

⁹ Returning to Lauren Etter’s article in the WSJ reference above: It is clear that it is the poorer nations and the poorer people who are benefiting the most from global warming. As Kaj Egede, the chairman of Greenland’s Board of Agriculture points out, “The conditions for living are getting better.” In fact, many in Greenland, a nation that has relied upon huge subsidies from the Danish government to survive, see global “warming as an important step toward greater economic independence” and hope the trend continues. With vastly more productive crop land, cattle ranches and an amazingly resurgent fishing industry leading the way, Greenland believes in “genesis by the edge of a glacier” as opposed to a foretaste of hell’s heat! The benefits to “the poor” are everywhere to be found, and in fact, right now the only effects of global warming are good ones benefiting entire nations and very poor populations. Even *National Geographic*, very fearful and gloomy over the advent of global warming has to admit “this positive effect of climate change is a boon to food supplies required to feed booming populations. ‘Take India,’ said Nemani. ‘Over the past two decades, especially in the 90s, India had really good monsoon conditions so their crops didn’t fail, so in a sense they had a really good supply of food.’ This is important for India, where population has gone from approximately 650 million people when Nemani left his native country in 1983 to the more than 1 billion people who live there today. ‘Lucky for them the climate has been extremely good for the country, otherwise they would be seeing a lot more food problems,’ he said. **[Climate Change Upped Earth’s Vegetation. Study Finds, June 5, 2003. See reference below].**

¹⁰ This thinking is contrary to what now passes as mainstream Christian thought. Today, Christian commentators such as Hal Lindsey see the world as winding down with no hope in sight. They seemingly ascribe greater power to the destructive ability of anti-Christ as opposed to the redemptive work of Jesus Christ! Typical of this thinking is a recent Lindsey column in which he surveys the troubles of the world and sees no hope: “The global social structure upon which civilization is built – the family – is under attack from every direction. The war on terror is, in reality, a clash of cultures – both natural and spiritual – with the forces of Islam squaring off against Judeo-Christian culture. The very fabric of human civilization is being rent and torn before our eyes. It is difficult, at this juncture in history, to foresee how it will survive the onslaught. No nation, seemingly, is exempt from the threat. Recently, a Senate committee calculated a 70 percent probability, for example, of an attack against the United States with a weapon of mass destruction within the next 10 years. Given our own nuclear capability, any retaliatory response by the United States could destroy civilization as we know it.” Hal Lindsey, After two days, He will revive us; April 26, 2006. [http://wnd.com/news/article.asp?ARTICLE_ID=49826]

¹¹ The Oregon Institute of Science and Medicine [<http://www.oism.org/pproject/s33p36.htm>]. See Summary.

¹² The Genesis Flood, John C. Whitcomb and Henry M. Morris. The section I’m referencing is in chapter 6, *A Scriptural Framework for Historical Geology* in which they discuss ‘Geologic Evidences of Antediluvian Climate.’ It should be noted that the authors were both from the highly dispensational end of the eschatological spectrum and their concern was only with the past, not the present or future climate conditions. In fact, both would have in all likelihood disagreed strongly with my eschatological assumptions that things are getting better!

¹³ The authors have extensively footnoted all of their sources and it is rich material indeed. Their diligence and scholarly work has made it easy, using the search capacity of the internet, to access most, if not all of the research materials they have utilized.

¹⁴ Ibid, The Greenhouse Effect, page 253 & 254.

¹⁵ G.N. Plass: “Carbon Dioxide and the Climate,”

American Scientist, Vol. 44, July 1956, page 313 as quoted in The Genesis Flood by Whitcomb and Morris.

¹⁶ Joseph C. Dillow, The Waters Above: Earth’s Pre-Flood Vapor Canopy. Page 101.

¹⁷ Lauren Etter, Feeling the Heat: For Icy Greenland, Global Warming Has a Bright Side; Wall Street Journal, July 18, 2006.

¹⁸ Ibid. How Christian ministers could be duped into parroting the demonstrably wrong view that the poor are going to be harmed with the onset of global warming is hard to imagine. Global warming does nothing except help the poor!

¹⁹ Andrew C. Revkin, Bad News (and good) on Arctic warming; New York Times, October 30, 2004, reprinted in the International Herald Tribune. The prediction that there would be a growth in marine fish stocks was accurate. As Etter reports in her Wall St. Journal article dealing with the benefits of global warming for the inhabitants of Greenland, “warm-water-loving cod, one of the region’s most commercially lucrative fish, are booming in the balmy coastal waters . . . The cod, says commercial fisherman Kim Hoegdan, ‘just came within the past three years. We have never seen them before in this amount.’ Mr. Hoegdan says he expects to catch as much as 440,000 pounds of cod this year, up from about 3,000 pounds two years ago . . .”

²⁰ Isaiah 55:13

²¹John Roach, Climate Change Upped Earth's Vegetation, Study Finds; National Geographic News, June 5, 2003

²² Revkin, Op cite.

²³ The Genesis Flood, John C. Whitcomb and Henry M. Morris, page 309.

²⁴ <http://www.peatmoss.com/pm-efaq.php>

²⁵ Russian peat expert George Kazakov calculates that there are 224 billion tons of peat available on earth, more than half in Russia and what use to be the U.S.S.R.

²⁶ <http://www.peatmoss.com/pm-efaq.php>

²⁷ When I say "aggressively," I by no means mean exhaustively. As pointed out, peat bogs grow 70 times faster than they are harvested! Amazingly, but perhaps not surprisingly, is the following statement made at WorldEnergy.org concerning peat bogs:

"Major environmental concerns regarding the use of energy peat are principally the same as those for other fuels. Worry about the adequacy of peat resources and the sustainability of their use has activated nature conservation bodies to increase the number of protected mires, and special mire conservation programmes have been developed in different countries. In Finland, for instance, this discussion was most intensive in the 1970s, when national peat development programmes were started and the peat industry was branded as the destroyer of Finnish peatlands. This fear was gradually overcome, as people started to realise that less than one percent of the total peatland area was needed for the peat industry during the future decades, at the same time as the protected mire area was in practice increasing to over one million hectares. In Central Europe the situation is worse because peatlands have been an object of human impact for hundreds or even thousands of years and certain types of pristine mires may be relatively scarce compared with Northern and Eastern Europe - to say nothing of Canada, where there is the largest concentration of pristine mires in the western world, or of Siberia in the east, where huge land areas are covered with thick and untouched peat deposits."

The organization frames the issue as one of worrying about "pristine mires" even though there is no difference between untouched deposits and replenished bogs. "Harvested peatlands can be restored to ecologically balanced systems within 5 to 20 years after peat harvesting . . . these bogs look like and provide the functions of virgin bogs." Also, the industry has a vested interest in developing ways to accelerate peat bog regeneration. "New research in ways to restore bogs quickly indicates that time can be shortened to five to eight years." Ironically, the more bogs set aside and protected, the greater the increase in CO2 levels in the atmosphere, hence, a speeding up of global warming.

²⁸ E.S. Eevey, Jr., "Bogs," *Scientific American*, Vol. 199. Oct. 1968, cited by Witcomb and Morris in *The Genesis Flood*, page 310.

²⁹ www.WorldEnergy.org. See their section on energy peat.

³⁰ If this isn't a perfect example of Psalms 76:10 in action I don't know what is! "Surely the wrath of man shall praise Thee: the remainder of wrath shalt Thou restrain." Man scoffs at God's redemptive work and seeks to stifle the advancement of both man and the earth. Yet every wrathful action they undertake comes back to praising God. God then restrains any actions that would be contrary to His plans and glory.

³¹ For a short explanation of why this fear is completely unmerited, see Richard Lindzen's editorial in the April 12, 2006 Wall Street Journal titled, *Climate of Fear*. Lindzen is the Alfred P. Sloan Professor of Atmospheric Science at MIT. In the editorial he points out that while it is true that CO2 levels have increased 30% over the past century, and agrees it should contribute to future warming, he points out that "It isn't just that the alarmists are trumpeting model results that we know must be wrong. It is that they are trumpeting catastrophes that couldn't happen even if the models were right . . ."

³² For example, see Jeffrey Chanton's article entitled *Global Warming and Rising Oceans* at <http://www.actionbioscience.org/environment/chanton.html>. Mr. Chanton holds a Ph.D. and joined the faculty at Florida State University in the Department of Oceanography in 1988. He has authored over 100 peer-reviewed papers and is looked upon as an "authority" in matters such as this. Of course, these "experts" are somewhat confused themselves, not quite sure if global warming is going to bring flooding in such fashion as to wipe out perhaps entire nations, or if it's going to evaporate the seas and leave desert conditions throughout the world. For instance, just several paragraphs prior to declaring that we'll lose large tracks of land to flooding he warns that if we have too much of a greenhouse effect, "water would boil off, leaving the surface of earth a desert." So according to our experts, we'll have a desert for a planet threatened with devastating floods from oceans that don't exist because they've been boiled away. As the old joke goes, Ph.D. stands for Piled High and Deep.

³³ Lauren Etter, *Feeling the Heat: For Icy Greenland, Global Warming Has a Bright Side*; Op cite.

³⁴ Joseph C. Dillow, *The Waters Above: Earth's Pre-Flood Vapor Canopy*, page 136-137. Dillow holds a B.S. from the University of Oregon and a Th.D. from Dallas Theological Seminary. He is a "scientist and theologian" living in Vienna, Austria and has taught systematic theology at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School. This is one of the outstanding works dealing with Creation, the Flood and the necessity for a return to a completely Biblical worldview if scientific investigation is going to yield results. One caveat: while never discussing eschatology, his background and training seems likely to have placed him squarely in the dispensational, premillennial camp, therefore while he clearly sees how good the earth's early climate was and how it would have contributed immensely to man's longevity (800-900 year life spans), he never mentions those conditions being recreated in any near or distant future on earth.

³⁵ *Ibid*, page 70.

³⁶ Genesis 1:6-7.

³⁷ Richard Lindzen, *Climate of Fear*, Wall Street Journal, April 12, 2006

³⁸ For example, witness the work of the people of Holland, who have pushed the ocean back off their land through dikes and levies, turning land that had been covered by salt water into productive, highly desirable property. Michigan, my home state, was essentially one large swamp until settlers drained it and turned it into one of the most productive agricultural states in the nation. Of course they drained the swamps (now sanctified by renaming them 'wetlands') before it became politically incorrect and legally dangerous to improve the land and people's lives by eliminating the many diseases that swamp conditions facilitate.

³⁹ Isaiah 66:20

⁴⁰ Dillow, Op Cite, page 158

⁴¹ <http://www.ihausa.org>

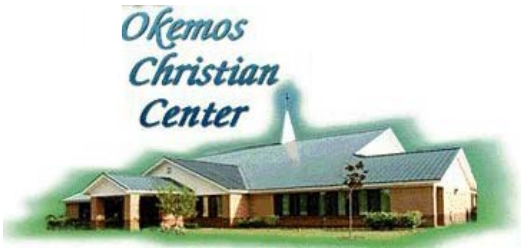
⁴² Dillow, Op Cite

⁴³ See their website at: <http://wrigley.usc.edu/hyperbaric/TOP.HTM>. "The word hyperbaric comes from "hyper" (meaning "over, above, more than normal") and "baric" (meaning "of weight or pressure"). For a treatment, the chamber is compressed to pressures as great as 165 feet of seawater (fsw) by sealing its doors and pumping in high-pressure air. The patient then breathes gas containing a high percent of oxygen (47% oxygen at 165 fsw, or 100% oxygen at 60 fsw and shallower) through a mask. The combination of high pressure and increased oxygen levels have achieved astounding results. On occasion, a diver in full arrest can, upon reaching a critical pressure in the chamber, regain a pulse.

⁴⁴ See Guy Cramers report he sent to all the National Hockey League General Managers in 1995 at <http://mypage.direct.ca/g/gcramer/hyper.html>. In the report he writes: How does the hyperbaric system work ? The chamber is sealed from the outside atmosphere and pressure is increased on the inside of the chamber. The occupant inside the chamber puts on a breathing device that supplies him with 100% pure oxygen. ***If the player has an injury, the oxygen together with the increase in pressure pushes the oxygen deeper into the injured area. Recovery time can be cut in half for the injured player. I do not dispute these claims.*** Why would there be problems using the hyperbaric system? The system is totally cut off from the outside atmosphere. A natural ion count of 5000 ions per cubic centimeter can be measured in nature. This count can fluctuate but no matter where we go, there are ions. ***In the hyperbaric tank the ion count would be zero. There is no natural or artificial way to produce ionization in the chamber since the corona discharge from an ionizer would cause the oxygen to ignite.*** Every human being must have ions to survive. It is this reason why the hyperbaric system is so dangerous. (Emphasis mine)

⁴⁵ 1 Corinthians 11:27-30

⁴⁶ Colossians 1:19-20



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