

Bible-based, Christ-centered, Spirit-led and ministry driven

New York Divinity School

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Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

There are many “issues” in front of us these days. We who are committed to the authority of the Bible have joined together on ways to uphold Biblical marriage and reduce abortion. The only *ultimate* issue, of course, is to love and obey our Lord and Savior in all things.

In the first chapter of Genesis where God defines our most basic relationship—marriage as one God, one man and one woman—he also defines our most basic responsibility as stewards of his Creation. In fact, twice in three verses our stewardship of nature is emphasized, right before and right after the moment of our creation. (Genesis 1:26-28). Literally, from the very beginning, we are commissioned to administer nature as God’s representatives. In the second chapter of Genesis our ancestors “improve and protect” the garden.

Throughout the Scripture we are told that the “earth is the Lord’s and the fullness thereof.” Earth does not belong to us, it belongs to him, and we are privileged to benefit from his continued grace and largess.

Creation-care is a Biblical issue, not a political issue. Public discussion is now shifting, thank God. Already seventy-five percent (75%) of evangelical people in America believe also that we must do more to protect the environment. More than half (51%) believe we should act to protect the environment even at significant cost. And their perspective is clearly supported by dozens of passages throughout the Bible. I am preparing some Bible-study outlines and charts that I could share with you if you would like.

The issues are the Lord’s, but too few Christians have heard the consistent Bible-teaching for Creation-care. While some environmentalists are overtly non-Biblical, coming from a pantheistic perspective, stewardship of the Creation is the original environmental behavior, established by the Lord himself, from the beginning.

The documentary *The Great Warming* is a faithful eye-opener on core Creation-care issues. This “lavishly produced documentary,” as Newsweek correctly labels it, is a must-see for Bible-believing people. It is informative, encouraging, empowering, with dramatic, positive demonstrations of issues and solutions. It is not pro-Democrat or pro-Republican—but pro-life, pro-responsibility and pro-fairness.

This splendid movie also includes helpful commentary from several experts, including three evangelical leaders:

 Rev. Richard Cizik, VP for Government Affairs of the National Association of Evangelicals (NAE), representing 30 million evangelical people in 59 denominations.

In 2005 the NAE published a resolution with Creation-care as one of seven main principles of evangelical civic responsibility.

■ Rev. Dr. Gerald Durley, PhD, psychologist, civil rights leader, pastor of Providence Missionary Baptist Church in Atlanta, known for holistic Gospel presentation.

■ Dr. J. Matthew Sleeth, MD, an emergency medicine expert who is devoting his life to this deeply *pro-life care*—providing Biblical training in practical solutions.

Please preview this excellent documentary, perhaps with your staff or family. Then please prepare one or more times, working with Stonehaven Productions, to have it shown for the brothers and sisters of your congregation. It will help rivet their attention to this very timely Biblical issue.

NY Divinity School and I stand ready to help and encourage you and the congregation with Bible-study charts and outlines to further help deepen people's spiritual awareness and understanding of this timely issue.

May the Lord Jesus Christ continue to guide and encourage you.

Your brother,

Paul de Vries

Paul de Vries, PhD
President

P.S. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions about *The Great Warming* or concerning the multitude of Biblical teachings that guide us for Creation-care.