## **Climate Religion**

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As with other issues today, many people are treating the earth's climate with a religious fervor that makes it impossible to be objective or impartial. Thankfully, for those who believe they were created by a Higher Power, this Higher Power states that earth's climate will not cause our planet's destruction. Therefore, in this study, the word of God will be the main source of information related to this controversial subject. In the past, this planet has experienced severe weather conditions which have not led to its demise.

In an article entitled, "The 15<sup>th</sup> Century Was So Cold People Used Fire to Melt Frozen Wine Bottles", author Patraic Flanagan stated the following:

The coldest decade of the last 1,000 years has been identified as the 1430s, when Britain's failed, prices rocketed harvests and communities across medieval Europe were hit by famine and disease. But according to Dr. Chantel Camenisch, a historian at the University of Bern, while other cold periods in history can be ascribed to volcanic eruptions or changes in solar activity, the 15th century cold snap may have been caused by a variation natural in climate (inews.co.uk/news/science/coldest-decadelast-1000-years-offers-climate-changelessons-34319).

Therefore, as severe as this 15<sup>th</sup> century climate anomaly was, the earth survived. And even though the seasons were modified for about a decade, they still continued without interruption. This is exactly what the word of God states.

While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and winter and summer, *and day and night shall not cease* (Gen. 8:22; NKJV used throughout unless otherwise noted).

As we will see later, the earth as we know it will come to an end, but that future event will not be the result of climate change. Besides, there have been cataclysmic climate changes throughout the history of the earth, and yet it continues to exist and function. It can be argued that the flood of Noah, as recorded by a number of civilizations, was a cataclysmic climatic event on a global scale.

And the rain was on the earth forty days and forty nights (Gen. 7:12).

The waters prevailed exceedingly on the earth, and all the high hills under the whole heaven were covered. <sup>20</sup>The waters prevailed fifteen cubits upward, and the mountains were covered. <sup>21</sup>And all flesh died that moved on the earth: birds and cattle and beasts and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth, and every man. <sup>22</sup>All in whose nostrils was the breath of life, all that was on dry land, died (Gen. 7:19-22).

There is no record that this worldwide flood was the result of global warming. Instead, it was directly related to the sinful conduct of earth's inhabitants. We will see this theme again in God's word, and it is a warning that this current generation needs to take very seriously because severe weather events are recorded throughout God's word and, more often than not, are associated with sinful conduct.

Then the Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. <sup>6</sup>And the Lord was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart. <sup>7</sup>So the Lord said, "I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth, both man and beast, creeping thing and birds of the air, for I am sorry that I have made them" (Gen. 6:5-7).

Before examining other scriptures, it must be clarified that the majority of weather events are natural occurrences. However, unusual and severe destruction must be given serious consideration regarding whether or not it is directly connected to sinful behavior. The next Biblical example is a case in point, and it occurred because Job's children were engaged in persistent sinful actions associated with their hedonistic lifestyle.

Instead, of accurately and honestly reporting this activity to Job, most of his servants covered up for these adult children.

Now there was a day when his sons and daughters were eating and drinking wine in their oldest brother's house; <sup>14</sup>and a messenger came to Job and said, "The oxen were plowing and the donkeys feeding beside them, <sup>15</sup>when the Sabeans raided them and took them away – indeed they have killed the servants with the edge of the sword; and I alone have escaped to tell you! (Job 1:13-15)

While he was still speaking, another also came and said, "Your sons and daughters were eating and drinking wine in their oldest brother's house, <sup>19</sup>and **suddenly a great wind came from across the wilderness and struck the four corners of the house, and it fell on the young men, and they are dead**... (Job 1:18-19b; emphasis added).

So this powerful weather event was associated with sinful conduct, and it was understood that way by Job.

And he (Job) said: "Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked shall I return there. The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord." <sup>22</sup>In all this Job did not sin nor charge God with wrong (Job 1:21-22; Ed. note in parenthesis).

Almighty God will punish persistent sinful conduct through the concentration, and increased severity, of what would otherwise be described as natural phenomena.

You will be punished by the Lord of hosts with thunder and earthquake and great noise, with storm and tempest and the flame of devouring fire (Isa. 29:6).

And your heavens which are over your head shall be bronze, and the earth which is under you shall be iron. <sup>24</sup>The Lord will change the rain of your land to powder and dust; from the heaven it shall come down on you until you are destroyed (Dt. 28:23-24).

And after all this, if you do not obey Me, then **I will punish you seven times more for your sins**. <sup>19</sup>I will break the pride of your power; I will make your heavens like iron and your earth like bronze. <sup>20</sup>And your strength shall be spent in vain; for your land shall not yield its produce, nor shall the trees of the land yield their fruit (Lev. 26:18-20; emphasis added).

Although drought has always been part of our climate history (cf. Gen. 41:29-31), if the severity goes well beyond past cycles, it needs to be given serious consideration as it can indicate that lawless behavior is getting out of control as it did prior to the worldwide flood during the days of Noah. An unbiased observer would agree that lawlessness is becoming commonplace in today's world and, if this trend is not reversed, major climatic events may well follow. Sadly, mankind's mortal enemy has been using "the religion of climate change" to deceive mankind into thinking that severe weather events are due to factors other than sinful behavior. So instead of changing our conduct, Satan wants our minds focused on purely physical solutions such as reducing our carbon footprint, rather than changing our behavior as it relates to God's word (Mt. 4:4). If we changed from our lawless behavior, the blessings associated with good weather would follow, as promised by our Creator.

The Lord will open to you His good treasure, the heavens, to give the rain to your land in its season, and to bless all the work of your hand... (Dt. 28:12a).

Then I will give you the rain for your land in its season, the early rain and the latter rain, that you may gather in your grain, your new wine, and your oil. <sup>15</sup>And I will send grass in your fields for your livestock, that you may eat and be filled (satisfied) (Dt.. 11:14-15; cf. Lev. 26:3-5; Ed. note in parenthesis).

In reality mankind, as a whole, has never learned from the historic examples recorded in God's word. Consequently good weather is due to be suspended as we descend into more and more lawlessness. These blessings will not return until Jesus Christ binds mankind's enemy and begins rebuilding and reeducating everyone who remains alive on this planet.

Then I (John) saw an angel coming down from heaven, having the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. <sup>2</sup>He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years; <sup>3</sup>and he cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal on him, **so that he should deceive the nations no more till the thousand years were finished**. But after these things he must be released for a little while (Rev. 20:1-3; Ed. note in parenthesis; emphasis added).

So after Satan's imprisonment, whoever still remains on this planet will begin to reap the many blessings associated with obeying the word of God over a thousand-year period. This time of unprecedented blessings is described as follows:

Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when the plowman shall overtake the reaper, and the treader of grapes him who sows seed; the mountains shall drip with sweet wine, and all the hills shall flow with it (Amos 9:13; cf. Joel 3:18).

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... (Isa. 65:20a).

The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, the lion shall eat straw like the ox... (Isa. 65:25a).

... They shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore (Isa. 2:4b).

As mentioned previously, this earth will eventually come to an end, but it won't be due to climate change. Instead, it will be due to the fulfillment of Almighty God's plan to reconcile all sinners to Himself, which could not be accomplished without a "covering" for these sins as provided through Christ's shed blood (Heb. 9:22).

For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive. <sup>23</sup>But each one in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, afterward those who are Christ's at his coming (1<sup>st</sup> resurrection of the dead). <sup>24</sup>Then comes the end (fulfillment), when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father, when he puts an end to all rule and all authority and power (that is anti-God's law). <sup>25</sup>For he (Christ) must reign till he has put all enemies under his feet. <sup>26</sup>The last enemy that will be destroyed is death (1Cor. 15:22-26; Ed. notes in parentheses). At this point, the physical creation will have fulfilled its purpose and no longer be necessary. Why? Because Almighty God is a spirit being and all His children will be the same at this future time (cf. 1Cor. 15:50-57).

*Now when all things are made subject to Him* (God the Father), *then the Son himself will also be subject to Him who put all things under him* (Christ), *that God may be all in all* (1Cor. 15:28; cf. Eph. 4:6; Ed. notes in parentheses).

But the day of the Lord (period of ongoing judgment and reconciliation) will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned (laid bare; exposed; cf. Mt. 10:26; Mk. 4:22). <sup>11</sup>Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, <sup>12</sup>looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat? 13 Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for a new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells (2Pet. 3:10-13; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).

Therefore, climate change or global warming will not end life on earth as we know it. Instead, through Christ's work of redeeming sinners to his heavenly Father, this physical creation will have served its purpose. Any teaching to the contrary is according to "the god of this present evil age" who keeps the majority of mankind in his "prison of deception" so they cannot comprehend God's truth at this time (cf. 2Cor. 4:3-4; Jn 12:31; cf. Isa. 14:16-17; Rev. 12:9).

So any politician or climatologist, who says that climate change and/or global warming is the

greatest existential threat to mankind's survival, is deceived and in denial of God's word on this subject. This planet will only come to an end when God's plan is complete. In the meantime, our modern weapons of mass destruction are capable of wiping everyone off the face of this earth, and probably would if God did not prevent it from happening. Christ's own words confirm that conditions on this planet are going to become extremely dangerous due to lawless conduct.

And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold (Mt. 24:12).

For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be. <sup>22</sup>And unless those days were shortened, **no flesh would be saved**; but for the elect's sake (those who trust and obey God's every word; cf. Mt. 4:4) those days will be shortened (Mt. 24:21-22; Ed. note in parenthesis; emphasis added).

Unlike Noah's time, this end-time period of tribulation will result in "no flesh surviving on the planet", without God's intervention. Specifically, Christ will have to halt the consequences of man's sinful behavior.

Allegorically, our sins are like dung piling up in the animal stalls in Noah's ark. Now it has piled up to the point where we are becoming very sick, spiritually speaking. And, like animals that are incapable of cleaning the dung from their stalls, Christ will have to return and clean up the mess that was created by our own stubbornness, rebelliousness, and foolish decision-making processes.

For **My people are foolish**, they have not known Me. They are silly children, and they have no understanding. **They are wise to do** 

## *evil, but to do good they have no knowledge* (Jer. 4:22; emphasis added).

So the real "methane threat from dung" is the consequence associated with the persistent emittance of our sinful actions upon this world.

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