



Global Warming

How concerned (and how green) should we be?

Introduction

- When you hear the term *global warming*, what are some things that come to mind?



- Poll: Is global warming real? (Even though this isn't fair, you must answer yes or no!)

The Facts

- Carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases have increased: 30% carbon dioxide and 30% carbon dioxide equivalents since about the time of the Industrial Revolution (mid-1800s).
- Global temperatures have increased 1.2 degrees Fahrenheit during approximately the same time period.

The Key Issues in Dispute

1. How much of global warming has been caused by humans?



2. Will these trends continue?
3. What will happen if they do continue?

What Does the Bible Say About Climate Change?

Genesis 1:6-8

1. Where did the earth's atmosphere come from?
2. From the rest of the creation account, what can we assume about the composition of the earth's atmosphere at creation?
3. How does an evolutionary worldview impact a person's view of global warming?

Genesis 1:26-29

4. What role did God give humankind at creation?
5. How does this command affect the way we as Christians live on earth?
6. For what purpose did God create plants?

7. How would an evolutionary worldview impact a person's view on humankind's place on earth?

Genesis 3:17-19

8. What is true of our world ever since the fall into sin?

9. How does this affect a Christian's perspective on global warming?

Genesis 8:22

10. Put in your own words what God promised Noah (and all humankind) in the immediate aftermath of the flood.

11. How does this affect a Christian's perspective on global warming?

BONUS MATERIAL

On May 24, 2015, Pope Francis released an encyclical entitled Laudato Si, in which he called for new and global dialogue concerning care for our planet.

Take several minutes to read through a summary of this lengthy document along with several key quotations.

1. What is the basic message of Pope Francis' encyclical on climate change?^[L T L]_[SEP SEP]
2. What are some statements and ideas with which we would agree?^[L T L]_[SEP SEP]
3. What are some statements and ideas with which we would disagree?^[L T L]_[SEP SEP]
4. Tell what your opinion is of this statement: The pope should not have issued any sort of statement on global warming because it involves him in science and politics, which are not the business of the church.^[L T L]_[SEP SEP]