

## CLIMATE CHANGE . MAN MADE DISASTER IN THE MAKING?

## CLIMATIC VERSES of SCRIPTURE

Seven days from now I will send rain on the earth for forty days and forty nights Genesis 7:4

Job chapter 38

You care for the land and water it;...The streams of God are filled with water...for so you have ordained it. You drench its furrows and level its ridges; you soften it with showers and bless its crops. Psalm 65:9,10

You rule over the surging sea; when its waves mount up, you still them. Psalm 89:9

Matthew 8:26,27

Psalm 107:25-35

For I am the Lord your God, who stirs up the sea so that its waves roar -the Lord Almighty is his name. Isaiah 51:15

Jeremiah 31:35

And the Lord changed the wind to a very strong west wind Exodus 10:19

Now a wind went out from the Lord Numbers 11:31

Job 1:19

Psalm 13:5,7

Psalm 104

## Yes...but it's not what they think!

A key principle in understanding our world is to have the right "WORLDVIEW". We live in a culture where the prevailing world view is actually not right, it is not just slightly off the mark but it is 180° wrong. It is a view that starts and finishes with the idea that there is no God, and that we are the product of a random series of events over millions and billions of years which is called evolution. This is not something that is found in the Bible, but it is something which now permeates all thinking and all scientific deductions. Evolutionary thinking incorporates what was once called "New Age Mysticism" and the notion that the Human Race is in charge, and can do anything.

So when scientists in any field make observations, they view those observations through the lenses they are wearing: *New Age Evolution* and interpret what they see based on that philosophy.

In the last decade or so, observations have been made about changes to weather patterns across the globe. Extreme weather events have been noted to have been happening more frequently, some areas are getting warmer. Others are getting colder. Or wetter. Or drier. In the UK, of course, all of these are happening at once! But that's just the weather for you...

I'm not disputing the observations. They *may* be correct. I have no way of knowing if they are or are not. It certainly seems to be true based on *my* observations - but they only go back about 50 years. There's a whole lot of climatic history I have not lived through.

But the observations are interpreted according to the prevailing world view. In the 1970s, when I was at school, climatologists looking at broadly the same data as those today, said a new Ice Age was coming. In the 1990s they changed their mind and spoke of Global Warming. Now they call it Climate Change. And they are saying this is because of the activities of the human race in burning fossil fuels etc.

Alright. But their worldview is wrong and so their interpretation of the evidence is wrong. In the margins of this document I have given references of Bible verses relating to climate and weather,

in many cases quoting the text too. I was surprised by how many verses there are on the subject. But they all say one thing: *the* weather and the climate are under God's control. To take just three passages:

Psalm 104:3,4 say He makes the clouds his chariot and rides on the wings of the wind. He makes winds his messengers, flames of fire his servants

Jeremiah 5:24,25 They do not say to themselves, "Let us fear the Lord our God, who gives autumn and spring rains in season, who assures us of the regular weeks of harvest." Your wrongdoings have kept these away; your sins have deprived you of good.

Jeremiah 14:22 Do any of the worthless idols of the nations bring rain? Do the skies themselves send down showers? No, it is you, Lord our God. Therefore our hope is in you, for you are the one who does all this.

A Biblical worldview then, says that if we are observing changes in weather or climate then God is behind it. So we need to ask ourselves the question What is God trying to teach us or show us by these climatic changes?

There are several occasions in the Bible where God uses storms to bring judgement. The flood of Noah's day being the most obvious. The world was full of sin, God sent warnings and then destroyed it by rain and flood. But of course He has promised not to do this again. Some of the margin references are about the time of the plagues in Egypt, and how God used the wind to send locusts, and later in the desert to send the people quail to eat. In 1 Kings 17 God withheld the rain for 3 years - exactly as He warned He would in Deuteronomy 28 if the nation turned from Him. Then, when the land was cleansed of the Baal worship in chapter 18 the rains return.

Infact, in Amos 4 God recounts a list of judgements that had fallen on Israel and the reason for them: that they might recognise they had moved out of His blessing and were sinning, and so would turn back to Him. Verses 7 and 8 read 'I also withheld rain from you when the harvest was still three months away. I sent rain on one town, but withheld it from another. One field had rain; another had none and dried up.

People staggered from town to town for water but did not get enough to drink, yet you have not returned to me,' declares the Lord.

God used the severe change in weather/climate to get their attention. *Their sin caused climate change*, yes. But only in the sense that God initiated the change to wake them up and bring them back to Himself.

Zechariah 14:17 says If any of the peoples of the earth do not go up to Jerusalem to worship the King, the Lord Almighty, they will have no rain. In other words, it was not just for Israel that God used the

lightning and hail, snow and clouds, stormy winds that do his bidding Psalm 148:8

Jeremiah 4:12

Jonah 1:4

1 Kings 17 and 18

When Moses stretched out his staff towards the sky, the Lord sent thunder and hail, and lightning flashed down to the ground. So the Lord rained hail on the land of Egypt; hail fell and lightning flashed back and forth. It was the worst storm in all the land of Egypt since it had become a nation. Exodus 9:23,24

"If you follow my decrees and are careful to obey my commands, I will send you rain in its season, and the ground will yield its crops and the trees their

fruit. .....BUT If after all this you will not listen to me, I will punish you for your sins seven times over. I will break down your stubborn pride and make the sky above you like iron and the ground beneath you like bronze" Leviticus 26:3,4,18,19.

Then Samuel called on the Lord, and that same day the Lord sent thunder and rain. 1 Samuel 12:18

He provides rain for the earth; he sends water on the countryside. Job 5:10

Job 37:6 and 38:25

I will command the clouds not to rain on it Isaiah 5:6

Jeremiah 3:3

Therefore this is what the Sovereign Lord says: in my wrath I will unleash a violent wind, and in my anger hailstones and torrents of rain will fall with destructive fury. Ezekiel 13:13

Joel 2:23

Amos 4:7

Ask the Lord for rain in the springtime; it is the Lord who sends the thunderstorms. He gives showers of rain to all people, and plants of the field to everyone. Zechariah 10:1

In the past, he let all nations go their own way. Yet he has not left himself without testimony: he has shown kindness by giving you rain from heaven and crops in their seasons Acts 14:16,17

Revelation 11:6

Ezekiel 36:34,35

The shipwrecks of Jonah and Paul (book of Jonah and Acts 27:13-44)

Jesus calming the sea (Matthew 8) - yet only God can do this (as previously seen in Psalms 65 and 89)

if you faithfully obey the commands I am giving you today - to love the Lord your God and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul - then I will send rain on your land in its season, both autumn and spring rains .... Be careful, or you will be enticed to turn away and worship other gods and

weather to get attention. This is a prophetic verse about the messianic era, but it shows that God expects the people He has revealed Himself to to worship Him and not turn away.

Jesus came to redeem humanity. The Gospel message has gone out across the earth, many nations that once professed faith in Him are now apostate. (It could even be said that the UK is especially so, for we have a covenant pledge invoked in the Coronation Oath to uphold the Gospel - and yet we are rejecting it increasingly even in the acts of parliament that are being passed). Would it not be reasonable for God to be acting again to get the attention of nations that are turning from Him?

When asked for signs to be looked for before His return Jesus said You will hear of wars and rumours of wars, but see to it that you are not alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come. Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines and earthquakes in various places. All these are the beginning of birth-pains. (Matthew 24:6-8). He didn't mention violent storms, but did indicate that increasing troubles will be a sign of His return.

It's also worth noting, though, that the Bible teaches of 'all creation singing'. Psalm 19 says *The heavens declare the glory of God*. Psalm 96 adds *Let the heavens rejoice* (v11). Everything in creation seems to have a musical attribute....the sine wave. The waves on the sea.

the tides of the sea, the spinning of the earth, the seasons of the year, the mean temperature through the year, and so forth. Looking back over climatic observations we see a basic sine wave again. At the foot of the page is one from a German scientific website looking back over the last 900 million years (their worldview, not the Bible's). Warm time,



cool
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accepting
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can see
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°C Die grossen Klimazyklen der letzten 900 Millionen Jahre 35 Säugetlere Dinosaurier 30 Wirbeltiere 25 20 15 10 Cenozoic or Quaternary -500 -400 -200 -100 Millionen Jahre vor heute

should expect to see continued climatic variations.

So, in summary:

We shouldn't be surprised to see gradual warming or cooling, that's expected as 'creation sings' and, in any case, is predicted by long term historical data

Increasingly frequent significant weather events, I would suggest, should be seen as warnings from God that the world/ a nation/ a city need to return to Him.

At the very least, to suggest that the weather and climate today are solely affected by the actions of man flies in the face of all that scripture teaches, and cuts God out of the equation. Doing that is folly. There are Bible believing climate scientists who observe the evidence - some even cautiously saying that fossil fuels may be to blame - however, they recognise that God is in control ultimately.

We cannot save the planet by reducing our carbon footprint. Only Jesus can save this world. That is the eternal truth, yesterday, today and forever.

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WITH THE FLOODING CAUSED
BY CLIMATE CHANGE.

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WEIL, WE'VE DEVISED FOR DEALING
WHEN WE COME to it.

bow down to them. Then the Lord's anger will burn against you, and he will shut the heavens so that it will not rain and the ground will yield no produce Deuteronomy 11:13,14,16,17

If you fully obey the Lord your God and carefully follow all his commands that I give you today.....The Lord will open the heavens, the storehouse of his bounty, to send rain on your land in season and to bless all the work of your hands. You will lend to many nations but will borrow from none..... However, if you do not obey the Lord your God and do not carefully follow all his commands and decrees I am giving you today....The Lord will strike you with wasting disease, with fever and inflammation, with scorching heat and drought, with blight and mildew, which will plague you until you perish. 23 The sky over your head will be bronze, the ground beneath you iron. 24 The Lord will turn the rain of your country into dust and powder; it will come down from the skies until you are destroyed. Deuteronomy 28:1,12,15,22,23

The LORD is slow to anger, and great in power, and will not at all acquit the wicked: the LORD hath his way in the whirlwind and in the storm, and the clouds are the dust of his feet. He rebuketh the sea, and maketh it dry, and drieth up all the rivers: Nahum 1:3,4 (KJV)







