

The environment – A Biblical view

The dominion mandate – Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and **subdue it. Rule** over the fish of the sea.... Gen 1:28. Also , “ The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden to **work it** and **take care of it**” Gen 2:15. So human beings have been put in charge of the earth to take care of it , to work , to subdue it and to rule over the creatures. Only humans are made in the image and likeness of God the animals are not. We care for the animals, as they are God’s creatures, but not all of them. None want to preserve the material mosquito.

We must also remember that we live in a **fallen world**, as seen in Romans 8:21, “that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay ...” We have made the world incredibly safe, in the last 100 years deaths of humans from climate has dropped 98%. This has been brought about by the use of fossil fuels and the machines they power. In Australia on some farms one man can produce enough to feed 800 people.

The Greenies – These people believe that unchanged nature is best and that we should not impact nature. Some of these people run a religious green movement. At CSW this year many spoke about “mother earth” , and how indigenous people would save the planet. This is animism, a worship of creation rather than the creator. There was one reference to mother earth in the final document.

I am in favour of national parks and marine reserves. Also I hate to see plastic trash strewn all over the place. We are to use the world like a garden, care for it and hand it on to the next generation in good shape.