IS GLOBAL WARMING/CLIMATE CHANGE A LEGITIMATE PROBLEM?

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INTRODUCTION

Recently, we have been focusing on questions that are forwarded from theDove audience that relate to the Bible and science and typically center on Genesis 1-11 (questions can be forwarded to *hispeoplerejoice@gmail.com)*. Even though the Bible is explicitly clear on numerous subjects such as the number of days of Creation, the reason for a Global Flood, the Ark, the death and resultant resurrection of Jesus Christ, and most importantly – the need for salvation from sin – there are some areas of Scripture that do not "*fill in all of the blanks"* leading to the adage of "*the Bible often gives us the mountain tops and not the valleys*." While the directive in I Peter 3:15 – "*always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you"* – does not mean that Christians should be experts in all fields of science, it does indicate that Christians should be able and ready to give an adequate defense for what they believe. This month, the submitted question is; *"Is Global Warming/Climate Change A Legitimate Problem?"*

As this question provides an excellent opportunity to examine the differences between secular scientific ideology and contemporary science, lets begin with a brief look at the historical account of the secular and evangelical environmental movements as an umbrella for this discussion and then direct our primary focus to the global warming/climate change debate.

THE ENVIRONMENTAL MOVEMENT

The increasing influence of the environmental movement (also known as the ecology movement) with its associated color of green has become much more than just another political viewpoint and one of the seven colors of the rainbow as the global and American environmental movements are influencing numerous areas of our daily lives. As most American's are well aware, terms such as *the environment, carbon-footprint, global warming, over population, eco-friendly, climate change,* and even the *evangelical environmental movement* known as *eco-evangelism* have become common terms that are often used to describe the general environmental concerns of the environmental movement. Not surprisingly, the environmental movement and its various factions (some of which are radical) are rapidly becoming more ordinary in conversation, global politics and an increasing influence in American culture and politics.

Some common examples of changes that can be attributed to the environmental movement are:

- A steady and increasing focus on global warming/climate change
- A shift from non-sustainable to sustainable energy resources
- Earth day as a recognized global calendar day (every April 22nd)
- Increasing media attention (i.e., March 2015 issue of National Geographic)
- Alleged depletion of the ozone layer
- Earth Summit Global Conferences
- Mother Earth is regarded as a living goddess
- Mandated governmental gas mileage and emission standards for vehicles
- Governmental restrictions on manufacturing processes and products
- Realtor's advertising their services as "*eco-friendly*"
- Population control (global overpopulation)
- Reduction of carbon emissions
- Perception of "*Earth In The Balance*" or the "*Plight of Planet Earth*"
- Some evangelical Christians adopting Eco-evangelism

Although there has, and can be some resulting benefits from environmental concerns, there has also been a primary emphasis on *minimizing* the importance of God and biblical Scripture by *maximizing* the importance of the Earth and its resources as well as the inclusion of various radical factions that are not biblically based. Therefore, it is imperative to distinguish conservationism from environmentalism and radical environmentalism as these three philosophies are diametrically opposed in their ideology and potential impact on society as follows:

CONSERVATIONISM

Conservationism is a balanced and measured type of environmentalism that rejects all excessive damage to the Earth and/or nature and is further committed to the *preventable* and *excessive* depletion of natural resources.[1] However, it does seek to balance the progress of mankind and industry in an environmentally responsible manner even though there may be an occasional exploitation of natural resources.

ENVIRONMENTALISM

This movement is a diverse scientific, social, and political movement for addressing environmental issues. Environmentalists advocate the sustainable management of resources and stewardship of the environment through changes in public policy and individual behavior. In its recognition of humanity as a participant in (not an enemy of) ecosystems, the movement is centered on ecology, health, and human rights. Unfortunately, due to a wide range of organizations, the environmental movement is not always united in its goals and encompasses some other movements with more specific goals, such as the global warming/climate change movement.[2] Unfortunately, the environmental movement can also encompass radical organizations.

RADICAL ENVIRONMENTALISM

Radical environmentalism is highlighted by an ideology that incorporates some or all of the following tenets:[3]

- A world that places nature above human life and man is viewed as an intruder
- Any human action that alters the environment is viewed as immoral
- A hostility to capitalism and a preference for socialism as an economic goal
- Articles of faith that are typically not based on scientific scrutiny
- A constant drumbeat of the destruction of Earth and/or its natural resources by mankind's activities
- An increasing focus on "*green jobs and commercialization*"
- A reduction of private-property rights of people

To better understand the environmental movement, let's look at a brief history of this cause.

ENVIRONMENTAL MOVEMENT HISTORY

For a brief history of environmentalism in America, we can go back to the late 19th Century and begin with Henry David Thoreau, John Muir, the beginning of the establishment of the Sierra Club, and the establishment of National Parks (Yellowstone). The early 20th Century saw the start of the Wilderness Society, the Nature Conservancy, and the passing of a Federal Water Pollution Act and Air

Pollution Control Act. However, the catalyst for the modern environmental movement is generally attributed to the 1962 book, *Silent Spring*, by Rachel Carson,[4] that highlighted the purported detrimental effects on the environment by the indiscriminate use of pesticides (primarily DDT). After Silent Spring, environmental legislation quickly followed with the Clean Air and Water Act, Endangered Species Act, Toxic Substances Control Act, and other similar legislation.

Continuing with an accelerating emphasis on environmentalism, Nature magazine published an article in 1985 with purported evidences of an ozone hole over the Antarctic. In 1988, NASA's James Hansen warned Congress about the consequences of global warming and a depleting ozone layer due to human influence. As a result, the US government supported an intergovernmental scientific panel to assess global warming/climate change. Facilitated by US support, the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) was established at the end of 1988.[5] By 1990, 76% of Americans called themselves "*environmentalists*" and was followed by the Academy Award winning documentary film about former United States Vice President Al Gore's campaign to educate citizens about global warming. The film was credited for "*raising international public awareness of global warming/climate change and reenergizing the environmental movement.*"

Today, the modern environmental movement can be viewed as a contrast of positive and negative results. From a positive perspective, it is a fact that the environment in America is cleaner today as compared to 100 years ago with cleaner water, air with less pollution, and food with reduced levels of carcinogens. However, despite the many benefits the environmental movement has been responsible for, the negative viewpoint is a result of multiple dominant adverse weaknesses that have been instrumental in significantly changing the focus and direction of the original environmental movement to a crusade that can be characterized as a radical movement.

The current green or radical movement is not primarily concerned about reducing pollution and saving the spotted owl but using the environment – particularly global warming/climate change – for increased global governance to promote their agenda. This antagonistic and prejudiced agenda begins in public schools where children receive an aggressive, evolution-based approach to enviro-care, energy use, population control, food supply, anti-God perspectives, and continues with a constant echo outside of schools from the media and Hollywood (an example is The Greens (www.meetthegreens.org) that is a website for kids that is focused on looking after the planet).

Typically, there are three primary divisions of radical environmentalism that can be characterized as follows:

The Greens

The Greens, or green politics, can best be defined as focused, politically motivated, sophisticated, progressive, and are largely considered as left in the political spectrum. The movement has become a home for hardline socialists that has resulted in the nickname of "*watermelon environmentalists,*" green on the outside and red on the inside.[6] Common agendas are global warming/climate change, the ozone hole, acid rain, elimination of most forms of energy such as coal/oil/ hydroelectric/nuclear, the removal of dams, green communities, and so on. The common denominator is a redistribution of global wealth and a central focus for the world's economy.

Deep Ecologists

Deep ecologists believe that all organisms are equal in inherent worth. The translation of that sentence is *a human life has no more value than the life of any animal*. Therefore, as nature is alleged as being in decline, humans are also alleged to be the root cause or a cancer/intruder on the environment.[7] This group favors radical confrontation and is represented by such groups as Earth First and Greenpeace.

Animal Rights Movement

The animal rights movement believes that all of life is equal and no form of life is superior to another.[8] A key word to the movement is *speciesism* that stands for a prejudice or discrimination based on species or discrimination against animals. When comparing humans and animals, speciesism is often condemned as the same sort of bigotry as racism or sexism.

As the environmental movement continues to gain influence, political strength, and expands its influence on our daily life, we should always consider the Christian response to current environmental concerns, particularly since *Mother Earth (Gaia)* has attained the status of a deity and resultant worship by numerous organizations including some evangelical Christians.[9] With the preceding overview of secular environmentalism, lets turn our attention to the religious side of modern radical environmentalism and overview Evangelistic Radical Environmentalism and its various viewpoints.

EVANGELISTIC RADICAL ENVIRONMENTALISM

Due to the global advances and increasing popularity of radical environmentalism, it should not be surprising that the National and World Council of Churches have ties to radical environmental organizations and also share some common viewpoints. Nonetheless, what is surprising is the rapid

incorporation of many Christian clergy and evangelicals who have embraced radical environmentalism. To consider and evaluate this paradox, lets look at the following three facets within the evangelistic environmental movement:

- History of the evangelistic environmental movement
- Common evangelistic environmental terminologies
- The Dominion Mandate

HISTORY OF THE EVANGELISTIC ENVIRONMENTAL MOVEMENT

The evangelical environmentalism movement in the United States began in 2006 by 86 notable evangelical Christian leaders when they launched the Evangelical Climate Initiative.[10,11] This was a campaign for environmental reform and called on all Christians to support legislation that would reduce carbon dioxide emissions in an effort to stem global warming/climate change. The movement typically incorporates the following stated characteristics:

- Committed to the authority of the Bible
- Based in the premise that humanity is engaging in sinfulness and disobedience to God by ignoring the mandate to "*tend and keep*" the land as found in Genesis 1:28
- A belief there is a moral obligation to minimize climatic influences and also generate support in adapting change
- Accentuating biblical mandates that focus on humanity's role as first a steward and then a subsequent responsibility for the care of God's Creation
- Emphasis on human caused global warming/climate change that will have severe consequences to this planet and its inhabitants

COMMON EVANGELISTIC TERMINOLOGIES

- **Evangelical Environmentalism**
  The evangelical environmental movement is committed to the authority of the Bible but are imbedded in the perspective that humanity is engaging in sinfulness and disobedience to God by ignoring the mandate to "*tend and keep*" the land in which they were originally placed (the Garden of Eden). The movement is best known for its focus of addressing climate action from a stated biblical based theological perspective
- **National Association of Evangelicals**
  A non-profit association that is working to encourage lawmakers to pass a law that would put restrictions on carbon dioxide emissions in the United States
- **Evangelical Climate Initiative**
  A campaign by American church leaders and organizers to promote market based mechanisms to diminish global warming/climate change. This discussion has the endorsement of the National Association of Evangelicals that represents 45,000 churches and 30 million congregants in the United

States. Also, 86 religious leaders who have called global warming/climate change a real and urgent moral problem have signed the Evangelical Climate Initiative

- **Eco-evangelism**
  The axioms for this perspective are – "*Serving God, Saving the Planet,*" and – "*Drawing on Science and Religion,"* and – "*Building a Bridge Between Environmentalists and Mainstream Christians."* The home Bible verse is taken from Numbers 35:33-34 – "*You shall not defile the land in which you live, in which I also dwell"*
- **Evangelical Environmental Network (EEN)**
  A ministry dedicated to the care of God's creation. EEN believes that Creation care is truly a matter of life and that pollution harms the vulnerable, especially children and the unborn
- **Restoring Eden**
  Established in 2001, a Christian grassroots environmental ministry that works with people to be a voice for the environment and all those who depend on it. Their axiom is stated as – "*Tree-Hugging, Jesus Loving, and Neighbor-Serving Christians"*
- **Green Pontiff**
  The term Green Pontiff was first applied to Benedict XVI for advocating environmental protection. However, the Green Pontiff term has also recently been applied to Pope Francis for using his pulpit to actively shape public discourse on environmentalism. Pope Francis has recently stated – *"One of the greatest challenges of our time. This is our sin, exploiting the Earth"*

Today, the evangelistic environmental movement has become more visible with multiple web-sites that are easily accessed, Christian media commentators, an increasing number of vocal Christian pastors in high-profile leadership positions, and high profile organizations such as the Cornwall Alliance with their program *Resisting the Green Dragon*.

THE DOMINION MANDATE

In Genesis 1 and 9, the Bible indicates that mankind has dominion on the Earth, meaning that mankind has been given a special authority and rule over the creatures and the Creation. This viewpoint is accepted to the degree that it is known as the Dominion Mandate although it is not specifically named or defined in Scripture. The Dominion Mandate is popular among evangelistic environmentalists from the perspective that humanity is engaging in sinfulness and disobedience to God by ignoring the mandate to "*tend and keep*" the land as found in Genesis 1:28. As a result, Bible-believing Christians can be misleadingly accused of being anti-environment and/or anti-Earth as a result of the Dominion

Mandate when God gave Adam and Eve (mankind) dominion over the Earth in Genesis 1:28 and at the end of the Creation week to Noah and his family in Genesis 9:1-2 after the Global Flood.

For clarity, lets take a few moments and look at the biblical *Dominion Mandate* verses from the Creation week and post Flood time periods as found in Genesis (NKJ version) and then expand on three key dominion terms:

(1) "So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. (2) Then God blessed them, and God said to them, be fruitful and multiply; ***fill the Earth and subdue it****; have* ***dominion*** *over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the Earth"*
Genesis 1:27-28

(1) "So God blessed Noah and his sons, and said to them: Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the Earth. (2) And the fear of you and the dread of you shall be on every beast of the Earth, on every bird of the air, on all that move on the Earth, and on all the fish of the sea. They are ***given into your hand****"*
Genesis 9:1-2

Fill the earth and subdue it:
God, having just created the universe, then created His representative (dominion) and representation (image and likeness). Man would fill the Earth and oversee its operation. Subdue does not suggest a wanton and unruly condition for the Creation because God pronounced it "*very good*." Rather, it speaks of a productive ordering of the Earth and its inhabitants to yield its riches and accomplish God's purposes. Additionally, "*fill the Earth,*" means that mankind has a primary place on the Earth; he is not an intruder and does not equate to overpopulation.

Dominion:
This word defined man's unique relation to Creation. Man was God's representative in ruling over the Creation. The command to rule separated him from the rest of living Creation and also defined his relationship as above the rest of Creation:

"You have made him to have dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under his feet, all sheep and oxen – even the beasts of the field, the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea that pass through the paths of the seas"
Psalm 8:6-8

Although mankind is charged with the responsibility to be wise stewards, this command does not place animal and plant welfare above human priority

and needs. A reversal of human and animal-plant priorities along with adverse pollution of the air, waters and land would be contrary to dominion and would be defined as exploitation. In concert with dominion and good stewardship, Christians should have a priority of using the environment for the benefit of mankind and God's glory.

Given into your hand:

This phrase as found in Genesis 9:2, does not allow for animal exploitation as it is referring to a change from mankind not allowed to eat meat prior to the flood (Genesis 1:30) to post Flood chronology of being able to eat animals for sustenance.

From the preceding overview of the Dominion Mandate as found in Genesis chapters 1 and 9, it is clear from a biblical perspective that God created the universe and then mankind as his representatives to fill the Earth, oversee its operation, and use its resources for the benefit of mankind. Mankind is also defined as above the rest of God's Creation which is also repeated in Psalm 8:6-8. However, with the responsibility of the Dominion Mandate also comes the accountability of being wise and prudent stewards of God's Creation.

With the preceding overview of the environmental movement and evangelistic radical environmentalism in this country, lets turn our attention to the primary focus of our discussion, the legitimacy of global warming/climate change.

Note: The phrase "global warming" was much more popular before 2006/2007. Today, the phrase "climate change" is more commonly used, so climate change will be used where possible as an umbrella for the balance of this discussion.

IS GLOBAL WARMING/CLIMATE CHANGE LEGITIMATE?

Without a doubt, the issue of global warming/climate change is at the forefront of newsworthy items and secular scientific concerns. Currently, it is difficult to read a newspaper or magazine, listen to a news program, politician, and/or walk into a popular bookstore such as Barnes & Noble without confronting the latest concern over global warming/climate change and the potential impending destruction of this Earth. In no particular order, here are some examples:

- The current Governor of California, Jerry Brown, has alleged that the current wildfires in California that destroyed the towns of Paradise and most of Malibu are linked to climate change[12]
- The "*climate kids*" are suing the US Government over climate change[13]
- Former Vice President Al Gore's November 11, 2018, warning at Summit LA18, that "*Climate Change is the Biggest Challenge We've Ever Faced*"[14]

- The September 4, 2000 issue of Time magazine (Figure 1) that boldly proclaimed *"Artic Meltdown – polar bears are in danger and so are you – global warming is already threatening the planet"*

Figure 1. Time Magazine And Artic Meltdown

- The Paris Agreement of 2015 that witnessed nearly every country in the world coming together and submitting a climate-action plan laying out how they would reduce carbon emissions.[15] This meeting was a cornerstone of President Barack Obama's environmental legacy
- The common refrain of "*The evidence is overwhelming. Record-breaking temperatures, humidity, and sea level rise, along with many other indicators, show the Earth is warming fast, and that all the heat-trapping emissions we release into the atmosphere from burning fossil fuels is changing our climate. The evidence of*

thousands of articles published in well-established and well-respected scientific journals, which show that climate change is happening and that humans cause it. The scientific consensus is clear, 10,306 scientists confirm that over 97% of climate scientists agree, and over 97% of scientific articles find that climate change is real and largely caused by humans"[16]

- According to the National Defenses Resources Council,[17] climate change is responsible for the following consequences:
  - Melting glaciers, early snowmelt, and severe droughts
  - Rising sea levels leading to coastal flooding
  - Forests, farms, and cities will face troublesome new pests, heat waves, heavy downpours, etc.
  - Disruption of habitats such as coral reefs and alpine meadows
  - Allergies, asthma, and infectious disease outbreaks will become more common
- In his State of the Union speech in 2013, President Obama said this:
  "Its true that no single event makes a trend. But the fact is, the 12 hottest years on record have all come in the last 15 years. Heat waves, droughts, wildfires, and floods; all are now more frequent and more intense. We can choose to believe that Super-storm Sandy, and the most severe drought in decades, and the worst wildfires some states have ever seen were all just a freak coincidence. Or we can choose to believe in the overwhelming judgment of science – and act before its too late"[18]

CLIMATE SCIENTISTS CREDIBILITY

When summarizing the previous quotes and examples, it is reasonably easy to conclude that planet Earth is in grave danger and unless immediate action is initiated to reduce the disastrous effects of climate change, the longevity of Earth and human life will be catastrophically influenced. This philosophy has been given a substantial degree of credibility by secular science that has emphasized the perception of impending catastrophic events that are being regularly repeated as scientific fact. That perception is summarized by the alleged conclusion that 97% of climate scientists agree, and over 97% of scientific articles find that man-caused climate change is real.

As this refrain is commonly used to substantiate the credibility of impending disaster from climate change, lets look a little closer at this assertion and see if climate change advocates have a strong and accurate scientific basis to their assertions, or are they hindered by a flawed ideology.

"97% Of Climate Scientists Agree, And Over 97% Of Scientific Articles Find That Climate Change Is Real"

This quote is deceptive from two problematic viewpoints – (1) consensus science and (2) actual agreement by climate scientists:

Consensus Science

The preceding quote utilizing the figure of 97% is a typical example of consensus science that is used to generate and/or amplify credibility for a specific viewpoint, which in this case is the claimed accuracy and overwhelming evidence for climate change. The fallacy of this view is best explained by a 2010 lecture on climate change given by Dr. Michael Crichton at the Michelin Lecture at California Technical Institute (Caltech). The following excerpts are from that lecture:

"Rather, I want to discuss the history of several widely publicized beliefs and to point to what I consider an emerging crisis in the whole enterprise of science – namely the increasingly uneasy relationship between hard science and public policy. I want to pause here and talk about this notion of consensus, and the rise of what has been called consensus science. I regard consensus science as an extremely pernicious development that ought to be stopped cold in its tracks. Historically, the claim of consensus has been the first refuge of scoundrels; it is a way to avoid debate by claiming that the matter is already settled. Whenever you hear the consensus of scientists agrees on something or other, reach for your wallet, because you're being had.

Let's be clear: the work of science has nothing whatever to do with consensus. Consensus is the business of politics. Science, on the contrary, requires only one investigator who happens to be right, which means that he or she has results that are verifiable by reference to the real world. In science, consensus is irrelevant. What is relevant is reproducible results. The greatest scientists in history are great precisely because they broke with the consensus. There is no such thing as consensus science. If it's consensus, it isn't science. If it's science, it isn't consensus. Period.

Finally, I would remind you to notice where the claim of consensus is invoked. Consensus is invoked only in situations where the science is not solid enough. Nobody says the consensus of scientists agrees that $E=mc^2$. Nobody says the consensus is that the Sun is 93 million miles away from the Earth. And so, in this elastic anything-goes world where science-or-non-science is the handmaiden of questionable public policy, we arrive at last at global warming. It is not my purpose here to rehash the details of this most magnificent of the demons haunting the world. I would just remind you of the now-familiar pattern by which these things are established. Evidentiary uncertainties are glossed over in the unseemly rush for an overarching policy, and for grants to support the policy by delivering findings that are desired by the patron. As an example, the 1995 IPCC draft report said, "any claims of positive detection of significant climate change are likely to remain controversial until uncertainties in the total natural variability of the climate system are reduced. No study to date has positively attributed all or part of observed climate changes to anthropogenic causes." This statement was removed, and in

its place appeared: "The balance of evidence suggests a discernable human influence on the climate."[19]

When the opinion of Dr. Michael Crichton is applied to the previous eight quotes on pages 9 thru 11, it becomes clearly evident that consensus science has replaced hard science in the belief-system of man-made climate change.

Actual Agreement By Climate Scientists

The constant repetition of alleged climate change and its potential destruction of the Earth are steadily growing stronger, particularly from the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) that provides the primary authority and stimulus behind climate change. Interestingly, the IPCC does not carry out original research, nor does it monitor climate or related phenomena itself. Rather, it assesses published literature and then reports its findings in a "*Summary for Policymakers."* In stark contrast to the leadership role the US has historically contributed to the IPCC, the enacted 2017 US budget not only zeroes out funding for the institution but the IPCC also appears as a zero request for the fiscal year 2018.[20]

However, a relevant question is, *what is the credibility and accuracy in reporting by the IPCC on climate change issues?* Consider the following five considerations that question the validity and accuracy of the IPCC:

1. Professor Mike Hulme, Cambridge University, is a prominent scientist and key IPCC insider who has stated the IPCC has seriously misled the news media and the public with its claims that thousands of climate scientists formed a unanimous consensus regarding man-made climate change. His paper for *Progress in Physical Geography* stated that the actual number of climate scientists who backed the IPCC report's on Anthropogenic Global Warming (man caused) was only a "*few dozen experts*." He added, *"Claims such as thousands of the world's leading scientists have reached a consensus that human activities are having a significant influence on the climate are disingenuous."*[21]
2. In direct contrast to the alleged 97% of climate scientists that agree with the perspective that climate change is a result of human activities are 31,487 American climate scientists (including 9,029 scientists who have PhD's) that have signed on in support of the *Global Warming Petition Project*. This petition is available online and declares the theory of catastrophic climate change is "*not supported by scientific evidence."* The petition also states "*CO_2 is a beneficial gas, not a pollutant*."[22]
3. S. Fred Singer, a renowned leading scientific skeptic of man-caused climate change has stated before the National Association of Scholars that *"the number*

of skeptical qualified scientists opposing climate change has been growing steadily; I would guess it is about 40% now."[23]

4. The May 8, 2010, issue of Newsweek magazine reported that *"some of the IPCC's most-quoted data and recommendations were taken straight out of unchecked activist brochures, newspaper articles, and corporate reports, including claims of plummeting crop fields in Africa and the rising costs of warming-related natural disasters, both of which have been refuted by academic studies"*[24]
5. In 2009, a server at the Climatic Research Unit at the British University of East Anglia was externally hacked resulting in the public release of numerous revelatory emails between some top IPCC scientist's just weeks before the Copenhagen Summit on climate change. This incident became known as Climategate 1.0. Then in 2011, 5,000 emails were again hacked from the same university and released to the public just before another climate change summit. This incident became known as Climategate 2.0. Three overall themes emerged from the aforementioned released emails:[25]
   - Prominent scientists central to the climate change debate are taking measures to conceal rather than disseminate underlying data and discussions
   - These scientists view climate change as a political cause rather than a balanced scientific inquiry
   - Many of these scientists frankly admit to each other that much of the science is weak and dependent on deliberate manipulation of facts and data

COMMON CLIMATE CHANGE QUESTIONS

Before we consider some key climate change questions, let's first define some essential terms that are currently very popular in this debate:

GLOBAL WARMING

A gradual increase in the average temperature of Earth's surface. This phrase became popular in 1988.[26]

CLIMATE CHANGE

A long-term change in the Earth's climate, or a region on Earth. This phrase became more popular around 2006/2007.[26]

GREENHOUSE EFFECT

The process by which heat is trapped in the atmosphere by gases that form a "*blanket"* around the Earth.

GREENHOUSE GASES

Atmospheric gases that trap energy. The primary greenhouse gases in the Earth's atmosphere are water vapor, carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, and ozone.

ANTHROPOGENIC
Pollutants originating from human activity.

With the preceding thoughts in mind that pointedly question the validity of anthropogenic climate change, lets continue by examining some basic scientific climate change principles and evaluate current contemporary scientific climate data by asking the following applicable questions:

- *What Are Atmospheric/Greenhouse Gases And How Do They Work?*
- *Is The Global Temperature Rising?*
- *Is Carbon Dioxide The Primary Cause Of Climate Change?*
- *Is Carbon Dioxide A Beneficial Or Detrimental Greenhouse Gas?*
- *Is Mankind Responsible For Climate Change?*
- *What Is The Motivation For Climate Change?*

WHAT ARE ATMOSPHERIC/GREENHOUSE GASES AND HOW DO THEY WORK?

Beginning with this question, it is important to have a basic understanding of climate change operational parameters as the actual terms of atmospheric gases and greenhouse gases are difficult to define by the average person. So, lets look at the ***what*** and ***how*** of atmospheric and greenhouse gases.

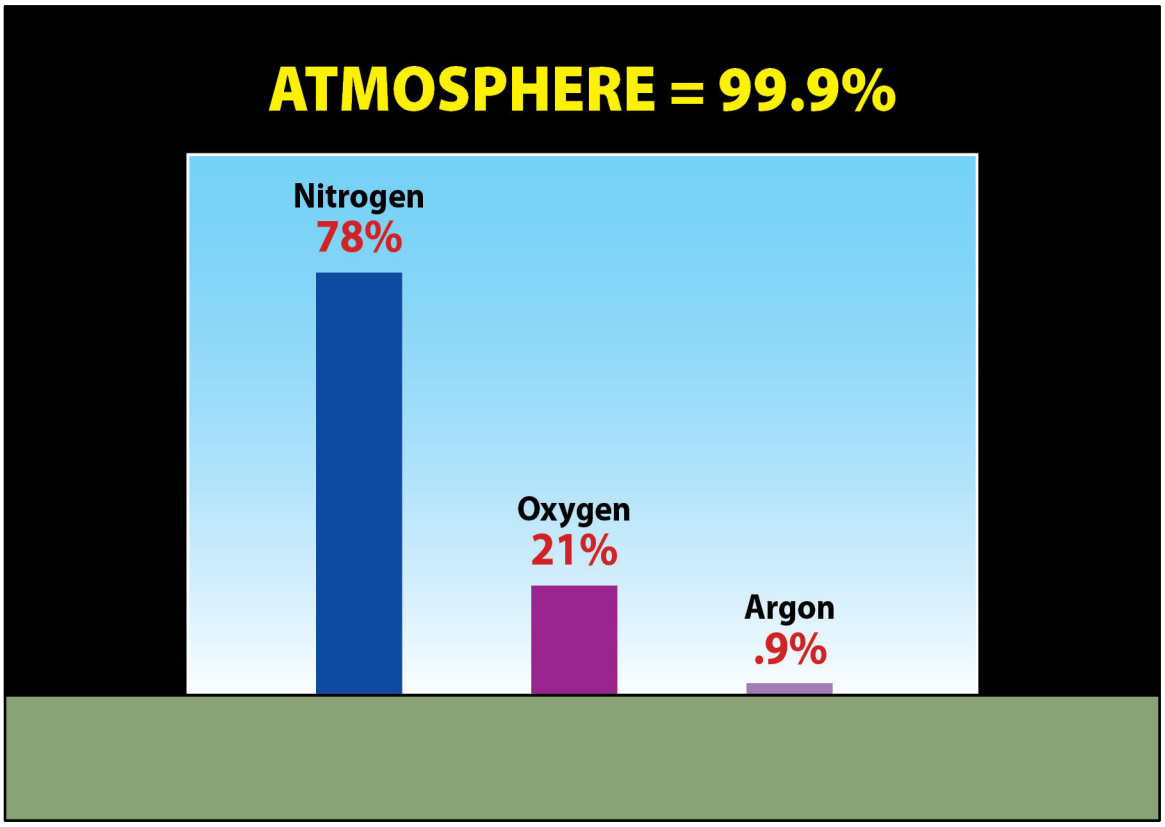

Figure 2. Atmospheric Gases

What Are Atmospheric Gases?

The Earth's atmosphere is comprised of nitrogen at 78%, oxygen at 21% and argon at .9%. Combined, these three gases form 99.9% of the Earth's atmosphere (Figure 2) and are **not** considered as greenhouse gases as they are defined as *gases that do not absorb and emit energy*.[27]

What Are Greenhouse Gases

The remaining .1% of atmospheric gases **are** considered as greenhouse gases as they are defined as *gases that absorb and emit energy*. They are listed in order of concentration (Figure 3).[28] For simplicity and in order to keep the following concentrations in their proper proportion, it must be remembered that the following figures are percentages of the .1% that comprise greenhouse gases. So, water vapor is 94% of .1%, carbon dioxide is about 3% of .1% and so on:

- H_20 – Water vapor @ 94% (not counting clouds)
- $C0_2$ – Carbon dioxide @ 3%
- CH_4 – Methane @ 2%
- N_20 – Nitrous oxide @ 0.9%
- 0_3 – Ozone @ 0.1%

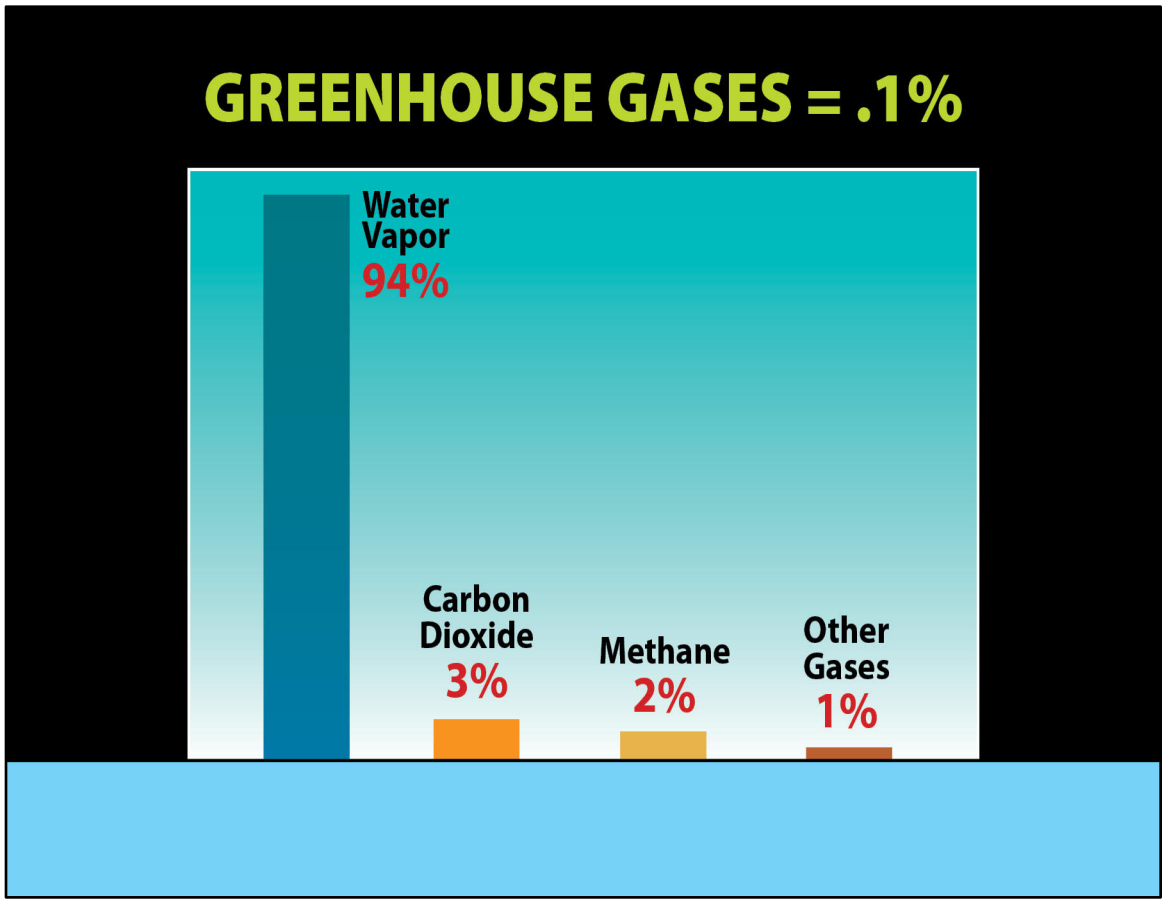

Figure 3. Greenhouse Gases

From the preceding four percentages, remember the following highlights as applied to greenhouse gases and their relationship to atmospheric gases:

- Water vapor is *principally* the more active greenhouse gas contributing about 94% of the .1% of greenhouse gases to any potential greenhouse effect
- $C0_2$ is a very small percentage (3%) of the .1% of gases that forms Earth's greenhouse gases and is why it is called a *trace gas,* as there is very little of it, particularly when it is a very small percentage of .1%. In reality, CO_2 comprises only a tiny component of the Earth's greenhouse gases
- Methane, Nitrous Oxide and Ozone are minor participants as greenhouse gases
- The reason climate change supporters don't discuss water vapor as a major contributor to the greenhouse effect is because there is nothing humanity can do to modify the level of water vapor in the atmosphere. Instead, $C0_2$ is the culprit since it is alleged that humanity can control the release of $C0_2$, and therefore it is being blamed for increasing its "*carbon footprint*."[29]

How Do Greenhouse Gases Work?

Greenhouse gases act like a radiative blanket over the Earth's atmosphere, causing the lower atmosphere to be warmer, and the upper atmosphere to be cooler than if they were not there. This is how it works (Figure 4):[30]

1. Sunlight is radiated from the Sun to Earth as *shortwave radiation*. This means that the Sun's heat travels to Earth in tiny waves with widths between 100 and 780 nanometers. Earth's atmospheric gases can't slow down or block most of these small-hot rays so the majority of sunlight passes through our atmospheric gases to hit and warm the Earth's surface
2. Most shortwave sunlight/radiation is absorbed by Earth's surface items such as oceans, soil, buildings, people, and other similar items that have the capacity to get hot and expel a portion of that heat as *longwave radiation* or *infra-red radiation* with widths between 780 and 50,000 nanometers
3. As the *longwave/infra-red radiation* is radiated upwards to the greenhouse gases, some radiation is passed out into space (dotted red line). However, a noteworthy portion is absorbed by the greenhouse gases (and is also radiated back towards Earth) and becomes trapped within Earth's atmosphere keeping the Earth warm. Interestingly, this process keeps the Earth at *around* 59-degrees F., on average. Without this process, the Earth would be frozen at about 0-degrees F.

Since $C0_2$ is considered a greenhouse gas, an increasing amount of $C0_2$ is believed to be causing a surface/atmosphere-warming tendency as it makes the Earth's natural greenhouse effect a little stronger (the radiative blanket is a little denser). As a result, not as much *infra-red* energy is allowed to escape to outer

space. Anthropogenic climate change theory dictates that the Earth's surface/atmosphere is heating up to hazardous levels as a result of the increased carbon dioxide emissions by humanity. This is the climate change mantra.[31]

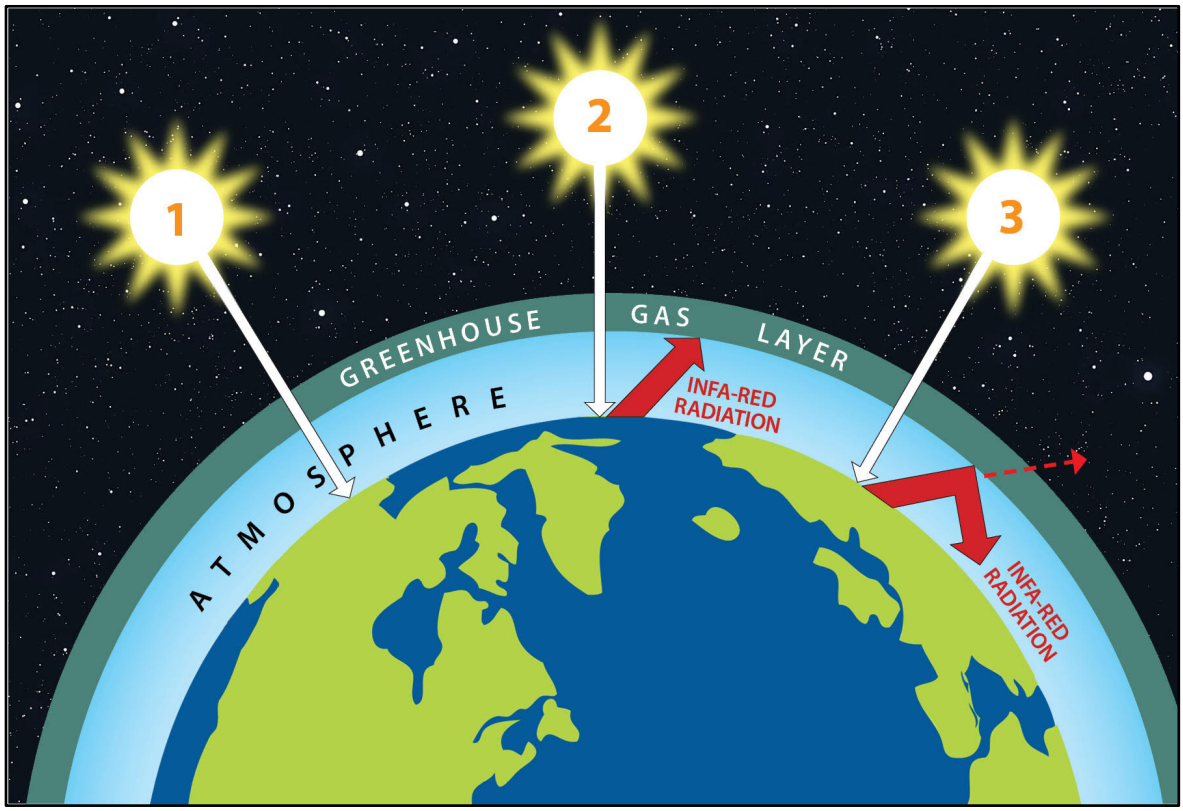

Figure 4. Greenhouse Gases And Their Effect

IS THE GLOBAL TEMPERATURE RISING?

The brief answer to this important question is *yes!* However, to put this answer in its proper context, consider the following facts from the perspectives of *temperature measurements* and *current application*:

Temperature Measurements

- Worldwide temperature measurements were not made prior to AD 1880. As a result, they have been made based on data from historical records, ice core measurements, sediment layers and tree-ring data that are *presumed* to be accurate
- Beginning in AD 1880, temperature measurements were systematically recorded at land-based weather stations. However, drastic weather changes in the immediate area of a weather station and poor distribution of weather stations around the Earth contributed to inaccuracies in those measurements
- In 1979, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration began using satellites to *infer* the temperature of the atmosphere at various altitudes as well as sea and land surface temperatures. Weather satellites do not measure

temperatures directly but measure radiances in various wavelength bands[32] but some inaccuracies were still present using the initial satellite orbits measurements

- In 2002, the satellite orbits were adjusted so measurements could be made at a consistent location and time of day.[33]
- Today, measurements are more realistic but accurate interpretation can be easily modified by inherent ideologies

Current Application

- Although it is a challenge for science to precisely state what happened to global temperatures during the past 2,000 years, it is known there were *cyclical warm and cold periods during this period* as evidenced by the Roman Warm Period, the Dark Age Cold Period, the Medieval Warm Period, and the Little Ice Age Cold Period (Figure 5[34])
- Interestingly, the Medieval Warm Period (AD 900 to AD 1300) appears to have witnessed a significant warming period as temperatures registered *slightly more than 2-degrees F. higher that the Earth's current climate*.[35] This rise in global temperature resulted in tremendous benefits for the Western world and Northern Hemisphere. As an example, it is known that the Vikings conquered Greenland and started growing grapevines in previously uninhabitable areas as far north as England, wheat and oats were grown around Trondheim Norway suggesting climates were warmer than present, and the population in Europe more than doubled. It should also be noted that the Medieval Warm Period's increase in global temperature of 2-degrees F. warmer than today was *unrelated* to any increase in CO_2 emissions due to human activity as there was low population levels and minimal industrialization (compared to today), thus no human modern contribution to increased CO_2 levels (*remember the temperature scale on the left portion of the graph in Figure 5 in in tenths of degrees Celsius)* to a current global temperature of about 58.6-degrees F.[36]
- Overall, the global temperature has been rising since the Little Ice Age (defined by NASA as AD 1300 to AD 1800) and is clearly visible in Figure 5
- Specifically, there has been about a 1.6-degree F. rise in the globally averaged temperatures from 1880 until 2014,[37] depending on sources
- As evidenced by RSS (Remote Sensing Systems) satellite measurements, there has been no significant climate change since about 1998 to 2013 (15 years) and is referred to as "*The Great Pause.*"[38] This period of static temperature is not typically mentioned by climate change advocates particularly when global temperatures have allegedly been steadily rising since 1880

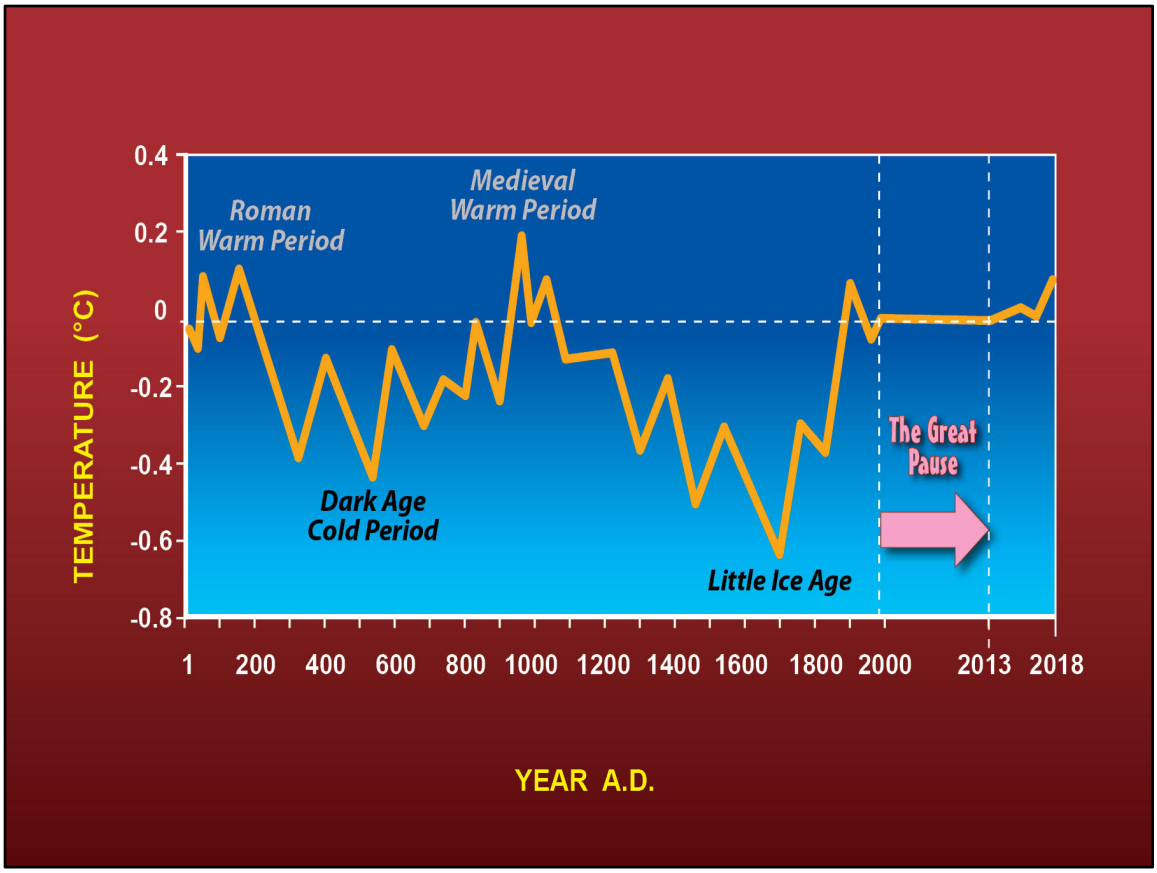

Figure 5. Historical Cyclical Warm And Cold Periods

- Although the overall global temperature trend since AD 1700 is up, so it is problematic (at best) to forecast a temperature rise or fall over the coming years as evidenced by the ***cyclical rise and fall*** of global temperatures as evidenced in Figure 5
- The reality of inaccurate forecasting of global temperatures by any climate organization, particularly the IPCC or any organization with a climate change ideology was exposed by the graph in Figure 6 that was leaked from the IPCC via The Daily Mail, and is based on data directly from the IPCC.[39] Although the graph is self-explanatory, note the following:
  - This graph is of *actual* average global temperatures (black line) compared to *computer models* (light red/dark red)
  - The dark red area is climate scientists official prediction of worlds temperatures to a 75% accuracy
  - The light red area is climate scientists official prediction of world temperatures to a 95% accuracy
  - The heavy black line is the official world average temperature
  - Clearly, the IPCC predictions were in error

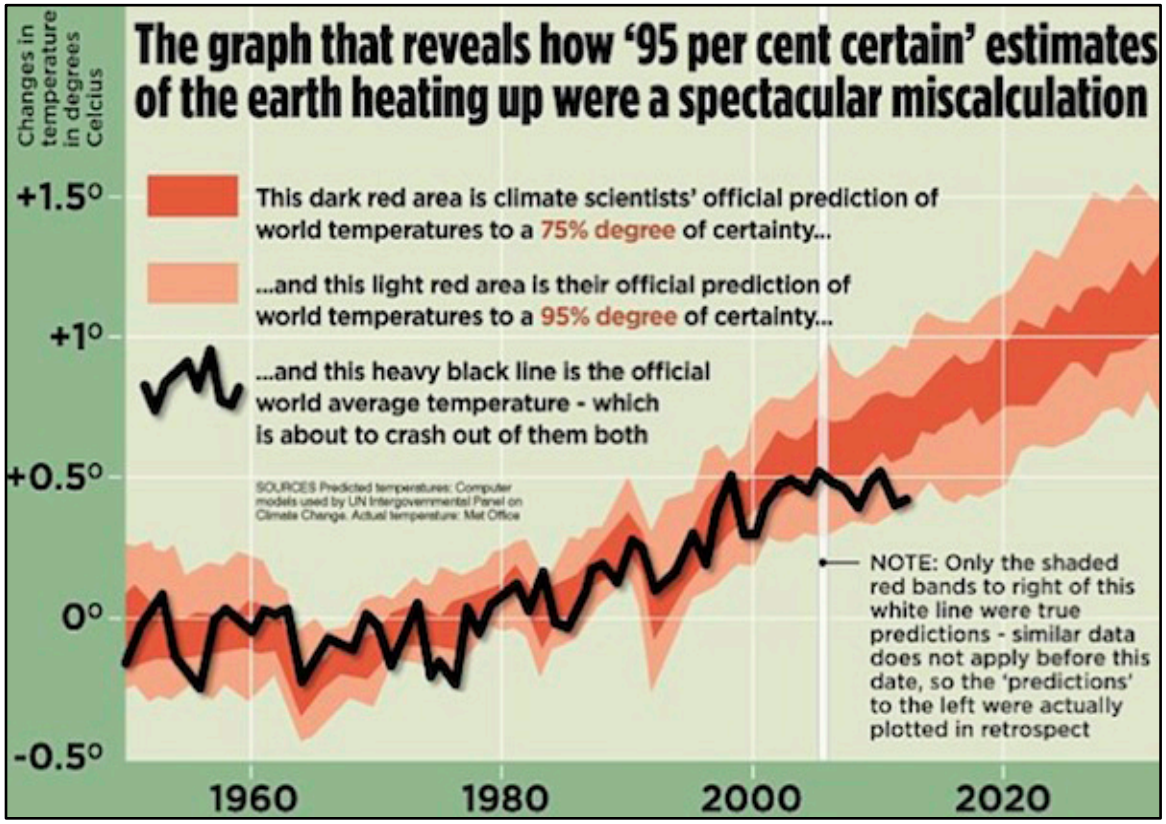

Figure 6. Predictions Can Be Misleading

- Another way to view the difficulty of accurately predicting global temperatures is readily apparent when comparing the cyclical graph line in

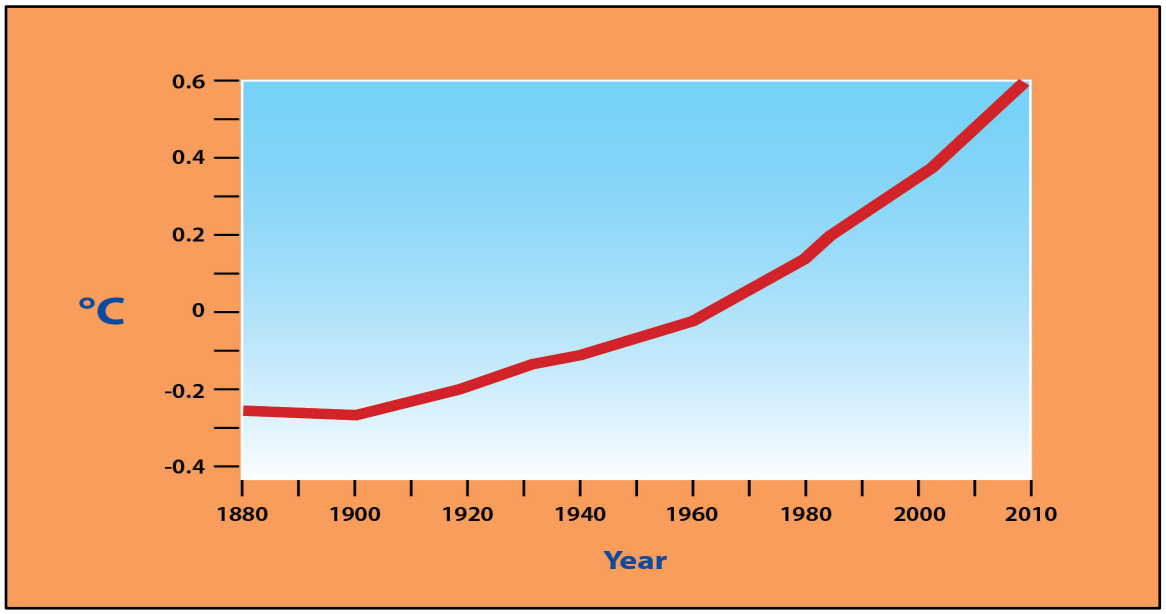

Figure 7. Steadily Rising Curve

Figure 5, and the steadily rising graph line in Figure 7. For a moment, lets assume the global temperature rise from 1880 until 2010 has been steadily progressing upwards as depicted in Figure 7 (which represents data from *earthobservatory.nasa.gov)*.[38] Based on the *steady upward rise* in temperature, the prospect of forecasting future temperatures should be simplified due to its 130 year history of steadily rising temperatures. However, when trying to predict future temperatures based on the cyclical graph line in Figure 5 (which comes from a history of over 2,000 years of cyclical warm and cold periods), future predictions are virtually impossible when based on a cyclical temperature history (like predicting the stock market). Nevertheless, this is what anthropogenic climate change supporters are attempting to do.

IS CARBON DIOXIDE THE PRIMARY CAUSE OF CLIMATE CHANGE?

This question is a focal point within the anthropogenic climate change debate. Information from environmental advocates such as the IPCC, focus on the belief that human-generated greenhouse gases are the principal cause of climate change as evidenced by a recent report from the IPCC as follows:

"Anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions have increased since the pre-industrial era, driven largely by economic and population growth, and are now higher than ever. This has led to atmospheric concentrations of carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxide that are unprecedented in at least the last 800,000 years. Their effects, together with those of other anthropogenic drivers, have been detected throughout the climate system and are extremely likely to have been the dominant cause of the observed warming since the mid-20th century"[40]

Based on the previous quote from the IPCC, lets make three general observations:

1. The phrase "*extremely likely*" indicates the IPCC is less than 100% confident in their conclusions
2. It is impossible for science to know what levels of carbon dioxide were present an alleged 800,000 years ago, particularly if the Earth is a young Earth as outlined in the biblical account of Creation
3. The IPCC states that anthropogenic drivers (environmental pollution and pollutants originating in human activity) such as carbon dioxide that has been produced by mankind were the dominant cause of observed warming since the mid-20th century (1950). If that were true, how do IPCC statements clarify the Roman and Medieval Warm Periods, as humans did not cause the warming cycles in these ancient civilizations by burning fossil fuels? As illustrated in Figure 5, it is apparent that human activity during AD 1000 thru

AD 1700 had minimal or no correlation with global temperatures as a result of fossils fuels and this is the primary reason why climate change supporters rarely mention these conundrums.

As an additional point of clarification based on the premise that human pollution by carbon dioxide is the most cited cause of an increase in climate change, refer to Figure 8.[41] Comparing the carbon dioxide estimates with the temperature estimates there is a noticeable lack of correlation between carbon dioxide and temperature! Let's look at several examples in Figure 8:

- The global temperature is aggressively declining from AD 1000 to AD 1700 while carbon dioxide concentrations during the same period nominally change
- The global temperature rise that begins around AD 1700 actually *precedes* the rise of carbon dioxide concentrations in AD 1800

The data in Figure 8 does not support the viewpoint of a correlation of rising carbon dioxide concentrations proceeding and/or causing rising global

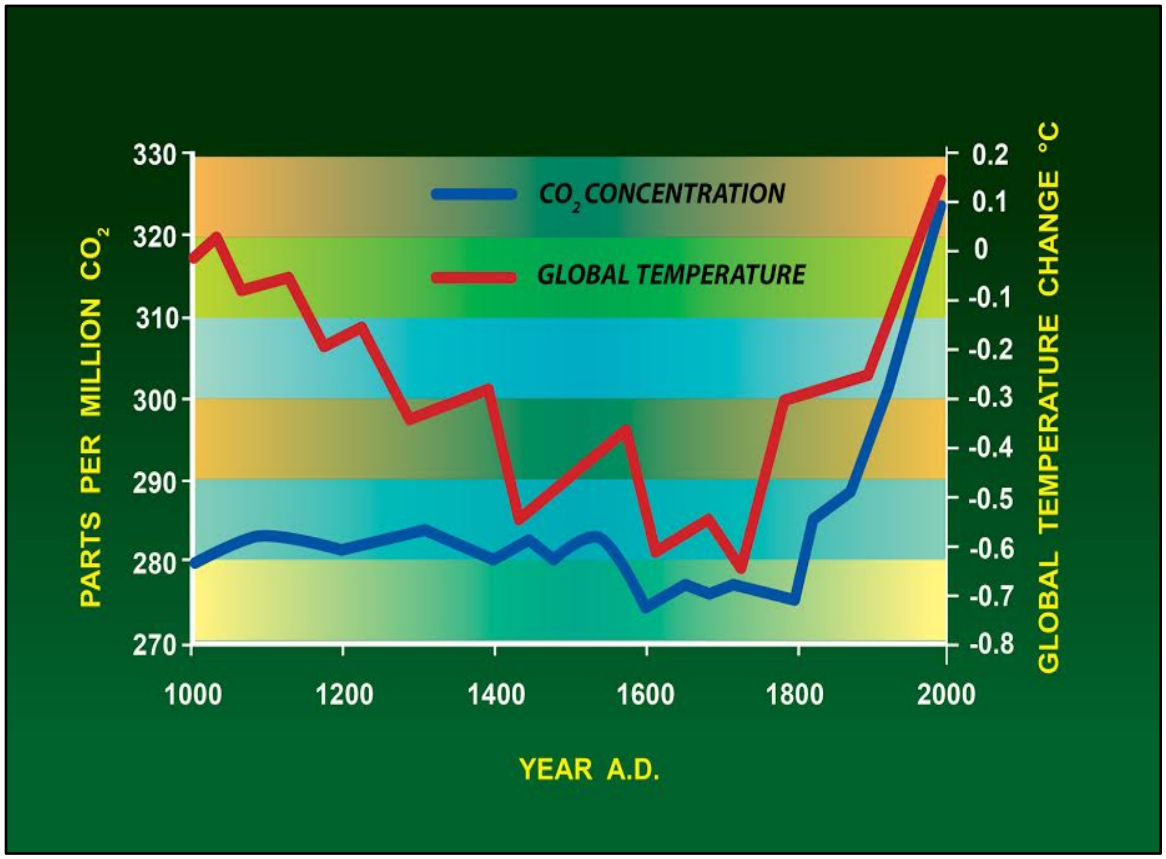

Figure 8. Carbon Dioxide And Temperature

temperatures. Additionally, it is a scientific fact that the temperature of the Earth has only varied about 1.6-degrees F. over the past 2,000 years and has been relatively stable for about 15 years between 1998 and 2013 (The Great Pause), which is not mentioned in pro anthropogenic climate change literature.

Another CO_2 reality that needs to be briefly discussed is the amount of CO_2 that is being added to the atmosphere and allegedly responsible for anthropogenic climate change. To understand the amount of CO_2 being added to the atmosphere and its effect on climate change, consider the following quote from Dr. Roy W. Spencer, Principal Research Scientist, University of Alabama, and Senior Scientist for Climate Studies at NASA, and co-developer of the original satellite method for precise monitoring of global temperatures from Earth-orbiting satellites:

"The major concern in climate change is that mankind's burning of fossil fuels is slowly increasing the carbon dioxide content of the atmosphere. Those who fret over such things usually put the increase in the most dramatic terms possible, for instance – total global emissions are now running about 30 billion tons per year. Notice that they don't tell you is how that compares to the total weight of the atmosphere: about 5 quadrillion tons.

While the rise in atmospheric $C0_2$ displayed in graphs often looks dramatic, the units of concentration are measured in parts-per-million (ppm). The current concentration of 380 ppm (as of 2006) means that for every million molecules of air, 380 of them are carbon dioxide. This small fraction reveals why carbon dioxide is called one of the atmosphere's trace gases. There simply isn't much of it.

At the linear rate of rise in $C0_2$ from less than 320 ppm in 1960 to 380 ppm in 2006, mankind only adds 1 molecule of $C0_2$ to every 100,000 molecules of air every five years or so. This, then, is what is supposedly going to cause a climate change catastrophe. Really, ……a whole bunch of scientists say so"[42]

IS CARBON DIOXIDE A DETRIMENTAL OR BENEFICIAL ATMOSPHERIC GAS?

Carbon dioxide can be considered a beneficial gas from two significant and relevant viewpoints:

- As previously mentioned, CO_2 is a greenhouse gas and is instrumental in greenhouse gases keeping the Earth at around 59-degrees F. Without the greenhouse gases, Earth would not be a habitable planet
- Scientists believe that atmospheric CO_2 levels have oscillated in the past between about 180 ppm (parts-per-million) and 300 ppm. Today, CO_2 levels are around 380 ppm. As a result, the IPCC is concerned about the increasing

amount of CO_2 in the atmosphere and that it has risen above a self-imposed ceiling of 300 ppm. As a result, the IPCC would like to reduce CO_2 levels to around 180 ppm.[43] Unfortunately, achieving a *"floor"* of 180 ppm is the level at which plant life would be in significant jeopardy. Without plant life on Earth, there would be no human life

- CO_2 is essential to life on Earth particularly for plant life. Plants need CO_2 for the photosynthesis process to produce sugars and oxygen. When plants are starved for CO_2, photosynthesis does not work very well and/or ceases to function. It is known that higher levels of CO_2 are beneficial for plants as the growth rate for plants increases from 5-50% when CO_2 levels are higher than the current levels of about 380 ppm. Interestingly, the maximum growth rates for most plants occurs when CO_2 levels are in the range of 1,000 to 1,200 ppm.[44]

IS MANKIND RESPONSIBLE FOR CLIMATE CHANGE?

In the previous sections, we have discussed the current *alleged* environmental viewpoints that mankind and carbon dioxide pollution are allegedly and predominately linked to the cause of climate change. However, and with the assistance of Figures 5 and 8, scientific evidence points to the fact that carbon dioxide concentrations in the atmosphere are not responsible for the dominant cause of increasing global temperatures. This was clearly illustrated during the Roman and Medieval Warm Periods that were hundreds of years before mankind burned "*fossil fuels*."

So, if the Earth' s temperature has been moderately stable for at least 2,000 years with an overall 1.6-degree F. variance, then what is the primary cause of today's rising global temperatures? Lets consider the following clarifications:

- Science will readily admit the subject of weather and climate are still not fully understood[45]
- As evidenced by Figure 5, it is historically clear that global temperatures have been cyclical and not linear
- After the Ice Age (about AD 1700), temperatures have fluctuated by about 1.6-degrees F. As an example, AD 900 to AD 1100 was considered a "*warm period"* and was then followed by a "*little ice age*" during AD 1400 to AD 1700 when the overall temperature dropped from +0.1-degree C. to about -0.8-degree C. (during this time, glaciers advanced, whereas now they are receding)
- The most significant and long-lasting natural process that can affect global temperatures is a change in "*total solar irradiance"* (TSI) from the Sun. Since the advent of satellites measuring solar radiation since 1979, it has been

verified that sunshine is not constant (as once thought). Changes due to sunspots and bright hot spots that change with time on the Sun's surface equate to more solar radiation when there are more sunspots.[46] Sunspots run in cycles such as the 11-year cycle, 22-year cycle, and a long period cycle that can last several hundred years and were instrumental in the Medieval Warm Period and the Little Ice Age. Obviously, these fluctuations are cyclical and are a direct result of cycles in the Suns radiation levels. As the Earth receives more heat from the Sun, the oceans will warm and release more carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. Conversely, as the Sun emits less heat, less carbon dioxide will be released as temperatures cool.[47,48,49] Remember that 70% of the Earth's surface is covered by oceans

- Based on the Roman and Medieval Warm Periods, today's temperature is not unprecedented and is better explained as *a cyclical global weather pattern*
- The Sun and associated atmospheric cloud effects (clouds are capable of reflecting heat from the sun) are also responsible for much of past climate change. Therefore, it is highly likely that the Sun and clouds are also a major cause of twentieth-century warming, with man-caused warming only a minor contribution. Scientific evidence from highly accurate satellite data indicates that the distribution of modern warming does not bear the "*fingerprint"* of man-caused effects. *Research of a growing number of scientists agree that variations in solar activity and its relationship with cosmic rays and reflecting clouds are the true driver of climate change, not anthropogenic greenhouse gases*[50,51]

WHAT IS THE MOTIVATION FOR CLIMATE CHANGE?

The development of the motivation behind man-made climate change was openly supported by a preliminary document that was published in 1993. The Club of Rome, a globalist European think tank published a document titled *"The First Global Revolution."* This document outlines their plans to use the fabricated environmental crisis of climate change to rush humanity into achieving the club's hidden goal of global government. Following is a portion of that document:

"*In searching for a common enemy against whom we can unite, we came up with the idea that pollution, the threat of global warming, water shortages, famine and the like, would fill the bill. In their totality and their interactions these phenomena do constitute a common threat which must be confronted by everyone together…..All these dangers are caused by human intervention in natural processes, and it is only through changed attitudes and behavior that they can be overcome. The real enemy then is humanity itself*"[52]

This quote gives credence to the perspective that the man-made climate change alarmist campaign is intended to produce a powerful world-

governmental body under the authority of the United Nations. More recently, this goal was given additional support in 2009 by incoming European Council President, Herman Van Rompuy who hailed 2009 as *"the first year of global governance,"* a reference to the globalist G20 agenda (Group of Twenty, an association of established and developing nations). Mr. Van Rompuy went on to describe the 2009 United Nations Copenhagen Climate Summit as *"another step towards the global management of our planet."*[53]

Even more ominous is the following quote from A Skeptical Layman's Guide to Man-Made Global Warming *"In America, socialism is bent on removing individual freedoms and placing the government in charge of our lives. The climate change issue is an important strategy for the advancement of socialism, under the guise of saving the Earth."*[54]

Predictably and with similar parallels, the *alleged* reality and immediacy of impending dire consequences facing this nation were graphically displayed on the weekend of November 24, 2018, when local and national news programs across this country reported on the just released United States Government 4th Climate Assessment Report that claims *"The message is loud, clear and undeniable: climate impacts are here and growing. The tragic Camp Fire in California serves as a stark illustration of how climate change is loading the dice for more extreme events that devastate people, homes and the economy. We should trust what we are seeing with our own eyes: more intense wildfires, hurricanes, flooding, and heat waves. This is what climate change looks like and it will become far worse unless we rapidly shift to a low-carbon economy."*

Climate change is already taking a toll on U.S. agriculture, health, tourism, fisheries, energy, transportation, infrastructure, businesses and more. For example, one trillion dollars of public infrastructure and private property along the U.S. coastline are at risk due to rising seas, increasing storm surges, and tidal flooding. No region of the country and no sector of the economy are immune. We must use all tools and pursue all policy levers to turn the tide"[55]

CONCLUSION

HOW SHOULD CHRISTIANS APPROACH THE ISSUE OF MODERN ENVIRONMENTALISM?

To address the various issues within the broad category of modern environmentalism and climate change, lets briefly consider the following three questions:

How Should Christians View Green Environmentalism?

There is a significant difference between the biblical views of mankind's

environmental responsibilities and the current political environmental movement, particularly radical environmentalism. An understanding of these two views will solidify the foundation and worldview that a Christian can use to evaluate biblical principles and environmentalism.

The Bible states in Genesis 1:28 that the Earth and everything in it was given to mankind by God to rule, subdue, and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves upon the Earth. Additionally, Genesis 1:26-28 and Psalm 8:6-8 indicates that God gave mankind a place above all creatures and commanded mankind to exercise stewardship over the Earth. This does not mean that the Earth and its various inhabitants should be placed above the priority of mankind.

It is important to remember that the universe and Earth are not permanent commodities, nor were they ever intended to be. The modern environmental movement is focused on endlessly conserving and preserving this Earth which comes from a worldview based on the universe and Earth being the result of accidental and random processes from nothing (evolution). Therefore, this worldview is concerned about protecting the longevity of this Earth as long as possible. 2 Peter 3:10 specifies that the Earth and all that God has Created will be destroyed by fire. Although we should be good stewards of God's Creation, we should not be focused on reversing the roles of nature and mankind and trying to preserve an Earth *that will not last any longer than God's ultimate plan.*

Is the Concept Of Mother Nature Biblical?

Mother Nature – sometimes known as Mother Earth or Earth-Mother – is a common personification of nature that focuses on the life-giving and nurturing aspects of nature by embodying it in the form of a mother that is unique and apart from God. The earliest written account of Mother Nature can be traced back to ancient Greek transcripts dated to around 12 BC. Today, the term Mother Nature acts as a catchall terminology for environmentalism and climate change and is often considered to be responsible for various types of global catastrophic events such as earthquakes, floods, wildfires and other similar events.

However, the Bible makes it clear that God alone controls the forces of nature (Jeremiah 10:12-13) and rules Heaven and Earth (Daniel 4:25). Moreover, Acts 14:17 states that nature is the Creation of God and He alone sustains and protects it. As a result, the idea of Mother Earth is not a biblical perspective.

How Should Christians View Climate Change?

Although the terms of global warming and climate change are similar and can be used to define the same viewpoint, it is interesting that the phrase *climate change* is currently used as the catchall phrase for progressive environmentalism. As

previously mentioned in this discussion, this shift in terminology began after 2009 as a result of the Climate Gate 1.0 scandal that resulted from emails that were anonymously released from IPCC scientists. These emails highlighted the admission that much of the science behind climate change is weak and dependent on deliberate manipulation of facts and data

In 2011 Climate Gate 2.0 surfaced with similar assertions that ignited Climate Gate 1.0. Therefore, a careful look at the science behind climate change indicates that there is a great deal of claims, counterclaims, valid scientific data, controversy and a general disagreement over what facts are valid and unsubstantiated science. As summarized in this discussion, we know the following primary points to be accurate:

- The global temperature has been rising since the Little Ice Age, but today's temperature is not unprecedented. Based on our best information, it is 2-degrees less than the temperature during the Medieval Warm Period about 1,000 years ago
- The Earth has gone through significant cyclical temperature changes in the past and is still under God's control
- The concentration of CO_2 in the air and global temperatures do not correlate well over the long term, indicating that CO_2 is not the dominant cause of today's rising global temperature
- The radiation from the Sun (TSI) is not constant and is linked with past warm and cold periods during the past 1,000 years
- Many environmental sources believe that current global temperature changes are the result of human anthropological (human) pollution. However, climate science supports the viewpoint that past and present temperature changes are not caused by human anthropological pollution but are significantly influenced by the Sun's radiation levels in conjunction with clouds
- Environmentalism can be very beneficial if kept in its proper context

How then should a Christian view human caused climate change? A Christian should view it skeptically, critically, and in it's proper context with biblical scripture. Additionally, the Bible assures us that humanity does not posses the power to destroy the Earth as stated by the following verses:

- God's promise to Noah after Noah and his family departed from the Ark gives us ample reason to expect that the Earth's temperature will remain within acceptable ranges:

While the Earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, winter and summer, and day and night shall not cease"
Genesis 8:22

- We are assured by Scripture that humanity does not posses the power to destroy the Earth, either gradually through climate change or through sudden cataclysm, such as a nuclear holocaust:

"One generation passeth away, and another generation cometh: but the Earth abideth forever"
Ecclesiastes 1:4

The destiny of the Earth and humanity remains solely in God's command. In all cases, the primary focus should be on worshiping the Creator, not the Creation as God is in control, not mankind.

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