



Earth Theology

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Earth Theology

- Earth Theology deals with environmental issues
- Reasons why many Christians show indifference towards environmental problems
 - This world is not our home, we are going to heaven our eternal home; therefore, why should we bother ourselves with the destruction of this world?
 - The Bible teaches us to subdue and have dominion over the earth and other creatures, therefore human beings are allowed to do whatever they want with nature.
 - The Bible is an anthropocentric book, uplifting humans over the rest of the creation because created in God's image that it can't be used to address ecological problems.

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- Declaration of Moscow
- As scientists, many of us have had profound experiences of awe and reverence before the universe. We understand that what is regarded as sacred is more likely to be treated with care and respect. Our planetary home should be so regarded. Efforts to safeguard and cherish the environment need to be infused with a vision of the sacred. At the same time, a much wider and deeper understanding of science and technology is needed. If we do not understand the problem, it is unlikely we will be able to fix it. Thus, there is a vital role for religion and science. We know that the well-being of our planetary environment is already a source of profound concern in your councils and congregations. We hope this Appeal will encourage a spirit of common cause and joint action to help preserve the Earth

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- Principles of Ecological Hermeneutics
 - 1. Intrinsic worth
 - 2. Interconnectedness,
 - 3. Voice
 - 4. Purpose
 - 5. Mutual custodianship
 - 6. Principle of resistance

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- **2 Kings 17:24-28 (NRSV)**

- ²⁴ The king of Assyria brought people from Babylon, Cuthah, Avva, Hamath, and Sepharvaim, and placed them in the cities of Samaria in place of the people of Israel; they took possession of Samaria, and settled in its cities. ²⁵ When they first settled there, they did not worship the LORD; therefore the LORD sent lions among them, which killed some of them. ²⁶ So the king of Assyria was told, “The nations that you have carried away and placed in the cities of Samaria do not know the law of the god of the land; therefore he has sent lions among them; they are killing them, because they do not know the law of the god of the land.” ²⁷ Then the king of Assyria commanded, “Send there one of the priests whom you carried away from there; let him go and live there, and teach them the law of the god of the land.” ²⁸ So one of the priests whom they had carried away from Samaria came and lived in Bethel; he taught them how they should worship the LORD