

CARE OF THE EARTH



AOTEAROA NZ
A ROCHA
Conservation and Hope

RICH LIVING

EXPLORING SUSTAINABILITY AND CHRISTIAN FAITH

How does caring for creation enrich our lives? How can the church respond to the crucial issues of our time? What does the Bible teach about the earth? How can our daily choices and actions be most effective to protect and restore the environment?

FRIDAY SEPT 28TH – SUNDAY SEPT 30TH 2018

www.arocha.org.nz/events

CASHMERE  PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

grace 
VINEYARD CHURCH

+++ SOUTH WEST BAPTIST CHURCH



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HOLISTIC MISSION

Evangelism

Discipleship

Church planting

Church growth

Church movements

Aid & Relief

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Nation building

Environment

Healing and Deliverance

Spiritual gifts

Spirituality

Prayer & Spiritual Warfare

ROMANS 8

¹⁸ I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. ¹⁹ **For** the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed. ²⁰ For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God.

ROMANS 8

¹⁸ I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. ¹⁹ For the **creation** waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed. ²⁰ For the **creation** was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the **creation** itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God.

ROMANS I

¹⁹ since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. ²⁰ For since the **creation** of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse.

CHRISTIAN WORLDVIEW

- Creation
- **Fall**
- **Redemption**
- End
- Good
- **Bad**
- **(Re)New**
- Complete

GENESIS I

²⁰ And God said, “Let the water **teem with living creatures**, and let birds fly above the earth across the vault of the sky.” ²¹ **So God created** the great creatures of the sea and every living thing with which the water teems and that moves about in it, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. ²² **God blessed them and said, “Be fruitful and increase in number and fill** the water in the seas, and let the birds **increase on the earth.”**

GENESIS I

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

⁴ God saw that the light was good,

¹⁰ God called the dry ground “land,” and the gathered waters he called “seas.” And God saw that it was good.

GENESIS I

¹² The land produced vegetation: plants bearing seed according to their kinds and trees bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds. And God saw that it was **good**.

¹⁶ God made two great lights—the greater light to govern the day and the lesser light to govern the night. He also made the stars. ¹⁷ God set them in the vault of the sky to give light on the earth, ¹⁸ to govern the day and the night, and to separate light from darkness. And God saw that it was **good**.

GENESIS I

²¹ So God created the great creatures of the sea and every living thing with which the water teems and that moves about in it, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

²⁵ God made the wild animals according to their kinds, the livestock according to their kinds, and all the creatures that move along the ground according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good.

³¹ God saw all that he had made, and it was very good.

ROMANS I

²⁰ For since the **creation** of the world God's invisible qualities—**his eternal power and divine nature**—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse.

PSALM 19:1

The heavens declare **the glory of God**;
the skies proclaim **the work of his hands**.

PSALM 104

³¹ May the **glory of the LORD** endure forever;
may the LORD rejoice in his **works**—

PSALM 104

- ¹⁰ He makes springs pour water into the ravines;
it flows between the mountains.
- ¹¹ They give water to all the beasts of the field;
the wild donkeys quench their thirst.
- ¹² The birds of the sky nest by the waters;
they sing among the branches.
- ¹³ He waters the mountains from his upper chambers;
the land is satisfied by the fruit of his work.

PSALM 104

- ¹⁶ The trees of the LORD are well watered,
the cedars of Lebanon that he planted.
- ¹⁷ There the birds make their nests;
the stork has its home in the junipers.
- ¹⁸ The high mountains belong to the wild goats;
the crags are a refuge for the hyrax.

PSALM 104

- ²⁷ All creatures look to you
to give them their food at the proper time.
- ²⁸ When you give it to them,
they gather it up;
when you open your hand,
they are satisfied with good things...
- ³⁰ When you send your Spirit, they are created,
and you renew the face of the ground.

PSALM 104

³¹ May the glory of the LORD endure forever;
may the LORD **rejoice** in his works—

PSALM 104

³⁴ May my meditation be pleasing to him,
as I **rejoice** in the LORD.

JOB 39

- ¹“Do you know when the mountain goats give birth?
Do you watch when the doe bears her fawn?
- ² Do you count the months till they bear?
Do you know the time they give birth?
- ³ They crouch down and bring forth their young;
their labor pains are ended.
- ⁴ Their young thrive and grow strong in the wilds;
they leave and do not return.

JOB 39

- 26 “Does the hawk take flight by your wisdom
and spread its wings toward the south?
- 27 Does the eagle soar at your command
and build its nest on high?
- 28 It dwells on a cliff and stays there at night;
a rocky crag is its stronghold.
- 29 From there it looks for food;
its eyes detect it from afar.

GENESIS 9

⁸ Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him: ⁹ “I now establish my covenant with you and with your descendants after you ¹⁰ **and with every living creature that was with you—the birds, the livestock and all the wild animals**, all those that came out of the ark with you—**every living creature on earth.** ¹¹ I establish my covenant with you: Never again will all life be destroyed by the waters of a flood; never again will there be a flood to destroy the earth.”

GENESIS 9

¹² And God said, “This is the sign of the covenant I am making between me and you **and every living creature** with you, a covenant for all generations to come: ¹³ I have set my rainbow in the clouds, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me **and the earth**.

GENESIS 9

¹⁴ Whenever I bring clouds over the earth and the rainbow appears in the clouds, ¹⁵ I will remember my covenant between me and you **and all living creatures of every kind.** Never again will the waters become a flood to destroy all life. ¹⁶ Whenever the rainbow appears in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God **and all living creatures of every kind on the earth.”**

JONAH 4

“And should I not have **concern** for the great city of Nineveh, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who cannot tell their right hand from their left—**and also many animals?**”

MATTHEW 6

²⁶ Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and **yet your heavenly Father feeds them.** Are you not much more valuable than they? ²⁷ Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life?

²⁸ “And why do you worry about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. ²⁹ Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendour was dressed like one of these. ³⁰ If that is how **God clothes the grass of the field**, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith?

WORK & CARE

Genesis 2:15

The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to **work** it and take **care** of it.

WORK & CARE

- **Numbers 3:8** They are to take **care** of all the furnishings of the tent of meeting, fulfilling the obligations of the Israelites by doing the **work** of the tabernacle.
- **Numbers 4:4** “This is the **work** of the Kohathites at the tent of meeting: the **care** of the most holy things.
- **Numbers 18:4** They are to join you and be responsible for the **care** of the tent of meeting—all the **work** at the tent.

WORK & CARE

1 Thessalonians 5:12

Now we ask you, brothers and sisters, to acknowledge those who **work** hard among you, who **care** for you in the Lord and who admonish you.

JEREMIAH 12:4

How long will the land lie parched and the grass in every field be withered?

Because those who live in it are wicked, the animals and birds have perished.

ISA 24:4

4 The earth dries up and withers, the world languishes and withers, the heavens languish with the earth. 5 The earth is defiled by its people; they have disobeyed the laws, violated the statutes and broken the everlasting covenant.

ROMANS 8

¹⁸ I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. ¹⁹ For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed. ²⁰ For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the creation itself will be **liberated** from its bondage to decay and brought into the **freedom and glory** of the children of God.

ROMANS 8

²² We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the **pains of childbirth** right up to the present time. ²³ Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption to sonship, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴ For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what they already have? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently.

BIRTH PAINS

Matthew 24:8

All these are the beginning of **birth pains**.

Mark 13:8

Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be earthquakes in various places, and famines. These are the beginning of **birth pains**.

MATTHEW 24

⁴⁵ “Who then is the **faithful and wise servant, whom the master has put in charge of the servants in his household to give them their food at the proper time?** ⁴⁶ It will be good for that servant whose master finds him doing so when he returns. ⁴⁷ Truly I tell you, he will put him in charge of all his possessions.

NEHEMIAH 2

¹⁷ Then I said to them, “You see the trouble we are in: Jerusalem lies in ruins, and its gates have been burned with fire. Come, let us rebuild the wall of Jerusalem, and we will no longer be in disgrace.” ¹⁸ I also told them about the gracious hand of my God on me and what the king had said to me.

They replied, “Let us start rebuilding.” So they began this good work.

NEHEMIAH 3

⁴ Meremoth son of Uriah, the son of Hakkoz, repaired the **next section. Next to him** Meshullam son of Berekiah, the son of Meshezabel, made repairs, and **next to him** Zadok son of Baana also made repairs. ⁵ The **next section** was repaired by the men of Tekoa, but their nobles would not put their shoulders to the work under their supervisors.

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