

What Does the Bible Say About **CARING FOR CREATION?**

The natural world is the handiwork of God, who rejoices in the creation.

Genesis 1
Genesis 1:31a
Job 38:4-7

Psalms 104:31
John 1:3
Hebrews 1:2

The creation is "good."

Genesis 1:4, 10, 12, 18, 21, 25, 31

Creation reveals God.

Psalms 19:1-6
Jeremiah 5:20-24

Romans 1:20

God sustains creation.

Psalms 145:15-16
Matthew 6:26, 30

We worship the Creator. The worship of nature is prohibited by Scripture.

Isaiah 42:8
Romans 1:18-25

The human creation is the "crown" of God's creation, and yet all of creation is enormously valuable.

Genesis 1:26-27
Psalms 8:3-5, 104:24, 31

Scripture plainly teaches that all creation sings its praise to God.

Nehemiah 9:5-6
Psalms 19:1, 66:4, 148:1-13

Humans are drawn to worship as they consider the creative acts of God.

Psalms 95:1-7a
Psalms 104:24

The effects of sin impact our lives, those of our neighbors, and indeed all of creation.

Genesis 3:17-19
Isaiah 24:4-13
Jeremiah 12:4

Hosea 4:1-3
Romans 8:19-22

Scripture condemns the destruction of the earth and describes penalties for those who destroy. God is grieved by actions that demean his handiwork.

Leviticus 26:40-43
Revelation 11:18

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Scripture teaches that the earth belongs to God. It is not ours to do with as we please.

Genesis 1:1 Psalm 24:1, 1-4:2b-5, 136:6
Deuteronomy 10:14, 1 Chronicles 29:11, 14
Colossians 1:15-16, 18c

One of God's first commands to Adam says we are to "take care of" creation ("abad", in Hebrew, means "serve").

Genesis 2:15

Scripture grants us the kingly role of "dominion" and describes a good king.

Genesis 1:28 Deuteronomy 17:14-20
Proverbs 31:8-9

The Noah story teaches God's desire to save all that he has made.

Genesis 6:5-9, 17

God is concerned for even "insignificant" creatures.

Exodus 23:12 Matthew 10:29
Jonah 4:11 Luke 12:6

God has given creation to humans for their use, but destruction of creation is not allowed. Gratitude and humility are the proper responses.

Genesis 1:29
1 Timothy 4:4-5

The work of Jesus Christ on the Cross is so powerful that its effects extend to all creation. Humans respond by believing in Christ, but indeed, all of creation benefits.

Romans 8:19-22

Scripture provides a picture of what creation will be like at the end of time. It will be healed and restored. God cares about the earth and will not allow it to be destroyed.

Psalm 96:10-13
Romans 8:19-22
Isaiah 11:6-9
Revelation 21:1, 22:1-5
Ezekiel 47:6b-12