



## **Apologetics and the Environment**

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### **1. The Problem**

Pollution of the air and water  
Land degradation  
Loss of natural resources  
Overpopulation  
War and refugees  
Environmental abuses  
Materialistic lifestyle  
Running out of earth  
Spaceship earth has first and third class carriages  
One earth - Chernobyl/Exxon Valdez

### **2. The claim that Christianity is to blame**

Be fruitful and multiply  
Anti-contraception  
Subdue the earth - selfish carelessness  
Have dominion - domination  
Christianity and capitalism - proof of election

### **3. Responses**

Biblical perspectives on creator and creation  
Biblical perspectives on humanity as part of yet distinct from created order  
Biblical perspectives on answerability  
Biblical perspectives on stewardship  
The fall  
The whole of creation groans  
The model of the shepherd king  
Jubilee laws  
The new creation  
Contraception Capitalism  
Other religions and cultures

### **4. Strategies for environmentally friendly living**

Simple life-style  
Development and environment  
Justice  
Waste accumulation and disposal  
Relations with animals  
Relations with air, land and water  
Wilderness and leisure  
Public and political action  
Global responses

### **Questions**

§ How can we reinforce understanding of the ecological crisis?  
§ How can we show that Christianity is not the culprit?  
§ How can we share biblical perspectives on the problem and cures?  
§ How can we show the difference Christian responsibility makes?  
§ What is a biblical view of contraception?