

What is the Christian's Role in the Environment?

1. We are to worship the Creator God, and not the creation
 - *Psalm 24:1 (NIV), The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it*
 - *1 John 2:17 (NIV) The world and its desires pass away, but whoever does the will of God lives forever.*
 - *Psalm 19: 1-6 (NIV) The heavens proclaim the glory of God. The skies display his craftsmanship. **2** Day after day they continue to speak; night after night they make him known. **3** They speak without a sound or word; their voice is never heard. **4** Yet their message has gone throughout the earth, and their words to all the world. God has made a home in the heavens for the sun. **5** It bursts forth like a radiant bridegroom after his wedding. It rejoices like a great athlete eager to run the race. **6** The sun rises at one end of the heavens and follows its course to the other end. Nothing can hide from its heat.*

2. Accept responsibility
 - *Genesis 1:28 (NIV), God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground."*
 - *Luke 16:1-2 (NIV) **16** Jesus told his disciples: "There was a rich man whose manager was accused of wasting his possessions. **2** So he called him in and asked him, 'What is this I hear about you? Give an account of your management, because you cannot be manager any longer.'*

3. Take care of the environment
 - *Genesis 2:15, NIV, The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to **work it and take care of it.***
 - *Luke 12:48b, From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked.*

4. Extreme weather may have a biblical explanation
 - *Luke 21:9-11 (NLT), **9** And when you hear of wars and insurrections, don't panic. Yes, these things must take place first, but the end won't follow*

immediately.” 10 Then he added, “Nation will go to war against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. 11 There will be great earthquakes, and there will be famines and plagues in many lands, and there will be terrifying things and great miraculous signs from heaven.

- *Genesis 3:17, And to Adam he said, “Because you have listened to the voice of your wife and have eaten of the tree of which I commanded you, ‘You shall not eat of it,’ cursed is the ground because of you; in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life..*
- *2 Ch. 7:13-16 (NIV), When I shut up the heavens so that there is no rain,^m or command locusts to devour the land or send a plague among my people, ¹⁴ if my people, who are called by my name,ⁿ will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land. ¹⁵ Now my eyes will be open and my ears attentive to the prayers offered in this place. ¹⁶ I have chosen and consecrated this temple so that my Name may be there forever. My eyes and my heart will always be there.*