

Environment Reading List from the Diocese of Winchester Creation Care course (with some additions)

Some Christian theological and ethical responses

[Renewing the Face of the Earth: A Theological and Pastoral Response to Climate Change](#) by David Atkinson (Canterbury Press, 2008) — In light of the moral and theological challenges climate change poses, how do we live? An exploration which focuses on the nature of God's covenant and what it means to live as a covenant people.

[Bible and Ecology: Rediscovering the Community of Creation](#) by Richard Bauckham (DLT, 2010) — One of the world's foremost New Testament scholars explores what the Bible says about humans' relationship with the rest of the creation. Short, clear, beautifully written and original.

[Planetwise: Dare to Care for God's World](#) by Dave Bookless (IVP, 2008) — The biblical case for caring for God's world presented with a blend of theology, story and suggestions for practical action. Engaging and great for small group study.

[God Doesn't do Waste](#) by Dave Bookless (IVP, 2010) — An engaging narrative account of what it means to live in right relationship with God, with one's family and neighbours (local and global), and with creation.

[Angels with Trumpets: The Church in a Time of Global Warming](#) by Paula Clifford (DLT, 2009) — What does it mean for the church to speak prophetically and care pastorally for neighbours local and global in a warming world? An early challenge to rethink how we communicate and respond to climate change.

[Eco-Theology](#) by Celia Deane-Drummond (DLT, 2008) — Important book from a senior Roman Catholic theologian, examining and analysing critical questions and debates in environmental theology. More academic.

[Cherishing the Earth](#) by Martin and Margot Hodson (Monarch, 2008) Arguing that Christians have a specific value to add to the discourse surrounding, so often anxiety-inducing, environmental issues: the message of hope.

[A Christian Guide to Environmental Issues](#) by Martin and Margot Hodson (BRF, 2015) Eight key current environmental issues, offering a biblical lens through which Christians can understand the problems and their role in solving them. See also [The Big Church Read](#) small group study resources for this book

[Responding Faithfully to the Environmental Crisis: Christianity at the Time of the Anthropocene](#) by Tim Howles (Grove, 2019) Explores the implications of the anthropocene, arguing that Christians have a unique role in turning understanding into action.

[Jesus and the Earth](#) by James Jones (SPCK, 2003) — Many people start from Genesis when thinking about creation and don't look for guidance in the New Testament. The former Bishop of Liverpool looks at what Jesus says about creation. Short, useful for group study.

[The Environment and Christian Ethics](#) by Michael Northcott (CUP, 2008) — A magisterial survey of Christian thinking on environmental ethics. Academic.

[Laudato Si'](#) by Pope Francis (2015) — Seminal call to hear 'the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor'... important in uniting considerations around care for creation and questions of human flourishing.

[Just Living: Faith and Community in an Age of Consumerism](#) by Ruth Valerio (Hodder & Stoughton, 2017) — How do we think about discipleship in a globalised, consumerised world? Sets out our context, considers the issues theologically, and suggests some practices for a Christian life well lived.

[Saying Yes to Life](#) by Ruth Valerio (SPCK, 2019) — Archbishop's Lent Book for 2020. Considers the environmental issues facing the earth through the lens of the Genesis story. Introduces scientific issues and real-life examples of global impacts, examines theological considerations, and offers stories of hope and suggestions for action. Many online resources to accompany the book. Includes interviews to go with the chapters and a youth course: [Saying Yes to Life Resources](#)

[For Creed and Creation](#) - A simple guide to greening your Church by Gillian Straine and Nathan Oxley. Practical advice on how to make environmental improvements to the church building, from simple, small scale projects to major schemes.

[Biblical Lament and Political Protest](#) by Andrew Williams. Exploring the idea of lament in the Bible and the feeling of helplessness and anxiety often encountered by those working against climate change.

[Bible and Ecology: Rediscovering the Community of Creation](#) by Richard Bauckman. Exploring the relationship between humans and the rest of the environment as set out by the Bible.

[Readings from the Perspective of Earth](#). Norman C. Habel Ed. The Earth Bible Project. Ecologically-focused Bible commentaries looking from an ecological viewpoint, with a reading from the perspective of Earth.

[The Creation Care Bible Challenge](#) edited by Marek P. Zabriskie 2022 is a book with 50 bible passages, each with a reflection, discussion questions and a prayer contributed by authors around the world.

[L is for Lifestyle](#) by Ruth Valerio (IVP 2019) — Bulging with the environmental view of most aspects of life with practical help to guide our living and lifestyles. See also Ruth's articles here: <https://ruthvalerio.net/green-living/>

[God's Green Book](#) By Charlotte Sleigh and Bryony Webb. Seven bible studies about the environment

[Under The Bright Wings](#) by Peter Harris. The story of how A Rocha was founded in the Algarve, Portugal in 1983.

[Kingfisher's Fire](#) by Peter Harris. The Founder of A Rocha describes the story of the remarkable growth of A Rocha over 10 years; from one field study centre in Portugal to a family of wonderfully varied community conservation projects around the world.

[Green Reflections: Biblical inspiration for sustainable living](#) by Martin and Margot Hodson. Biblical reflections on the environment and our relationship with it.

[Nature](#) An informative and beautiful booklet by Susanna Gunner from Diocese of Norwich exploring the environment crisis.

[*Finding the Way Through Water*](#) by Roland K Price. Explores how water contributes to our understanding of the created world and our Christian beliefs. Water pervades God's story in the Bible, and an understanding of water management today helps.

A [*selection*](#) collated by the John Ray Initiative of 'green' Grove Books, short informative booklets on a variety of environmental topics.

[*Changing the Climate: Applying the Bible in a climate emergency*](#) by Debbie, David & Jamie Hawker. Bible passages relevant to playing our part in limiting the negative effects of climate change. Practical Bible-based material to use in families and churches.

[*Redeeming all things: Integral Mission & Creation Care*](#) by Rachel Mander 2022 is a booklet explaining why creation care is core to us living out the gospel and sharing this good news.

[*Messy Church Goes Wild*](#) edited by Lucy Moore 2022. Encourages groups to meet God outdoors, love the natural world, experience a sense of awe and wonder there.

[*Messy Church Does Science*](#) edited by David Gregory 2017. Provides tools to use science to explore aspects of the Christian faith; demonstrate that science and faith are complementary.

[*Planet Protectors: 52 Ways to look after God's world*](#) by Paul Kerensa and Ruth Valerio. Family sustainability actions in a book aimed at 7-9 year olds.

[*Caring for Creation - Biblical and theological perspectives*](#). Sarah Tillett (Editor). Stories of A Rocha members working in different parts of the world and contributions from theologians and experts in particular areas.

[*Sleepers Wake - Getting Serious About Climate Change*](#) by Nicholas Holtam, The Archbishop of York's Advent Book 2022. Explores climate change and how Advent is an opportunity for us to wake up, sense the urgency and begin to make radical change.

Science of Climate Change

Take a look at the latest reports from the [*Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change*](#). The executive summaries are short and clear; there's more detail in the full documents.

Keep up to date by signing up for the [*Carbon Brief*](#) daily or weekly emails — full of useful information and analysis.

[*'The Basic Science of Human Induced Climate Change'*](#) with Myles Allen — A series of five short (13 min) video presentations, originally done as evidence in a court case on climate change. Clear, succinct, and state of the art.

[*Climate Change: A very short introduction*](#) by Mark Maslin (OUP, 2014) — useful introductory text

[*The Rough Guide to Climate Change*](#) by Robert Henson (Rough Guides, 2011) — useful introductory text.

[*How Bad Are Bananas? The Carbon Footprint of Everything*](#) by Mike Berners-Lee (Green Profile, 2010) —

Greatly informative, and great fun. A short look at the carbon associated with a variety of goods and services, which helps us to see the impact of our choices and decide how we can change them for the better.

[*There is no Planet B: A Handbook for the Make or Break Years*](#) by Mike Berners-Lee (CUP, 2019) — In an engaging style takes big issues (how can we feed people in a warming world?), presents the scientific/economic/social questions involved and suggests possible ways towards positive change... all in a simple Q and A format.

[*The Future We Choose: Surviving the Climate Crisis*](#) by Cristiana Figueres and Tom Rivett-Carnac (Bonnier, 2020) — The former head of the UN climate talks and her chief political strategist look at the world we're creating and the world we must create to survive... and show the mindsets and practices needed for the world we must create.

[*Prosperity without Growth*](#) by Tim Jackson (Routledge, 2016) — Do we really need exponential economic growth in order to prosper? And what is prosperity anyway? Are there other paths to human flourishing? What would a post-growth economics look like? Important and challenging.

[*Six Degrees: Our Future on a Hotter Planet*](#) by Mark Lynas (Harper Perennial, 2008) — What does the earth look like with one degree of global warming? With two? With more? British journalist Lynas sets out the different scenarios based on extensive reading of scientific research — and makes a clear case for urgent action.

[*Don't Even Think About It: Why Our Brains Are Wired to Ignore Climate Change*](#) by George Marshall (Bloomsbury, 2015) — We know climate change is a threat to all we love. So why have we been so slow to act? Using insights from behavioural psychology, Marshall explores the things that make climate change so hard for people to process... and suggests ways forward. Engagingly written, fascinating, and highly influential.

[*The Uninhabitable Earth: A Story of the Future*](#) by David Wallace Wells (Penguin, 2019) (also available free in its [original article format](#)) —Forthright, occasionally controversial, US journalist Wallace Wells has helped to raise awareness of the climate emergency.

[*Hope in Hell*](#) by Jonathon Porritt. It is not too late to act on climate "But it won't stay 'not too late' much longer. Which is what makes this the decisive decade."

[*No One Is Too Small to Make a Difference*](#) by Greta Thunberg. This book collects together Greta's speeches that have made history across Europe.

[*Doughnut Economics: Seven Ways to Think Like a 21st-Century Economist*](#) by Kate Raworth (Random House, 2018) — How can we set a new economic goal to 'meet the needs of all within the means of the planet'? Raworth explores the social needs that must be met for all people to have the opportunity to flourish, the planetary resources we have to meet them, and how we find an economy that hits 'the sweet spot for humanity'. (Animated [YouTube summary](#))

[*The World We Made*](#) by Jonathon Porritt. Told through the words of Alex McKay, a teacher looking back from 2050, sharing the story of how we got from where we are today (in a pretty bad way, environmentally) to a much better place in the future.