



**CAPITOL  
ministries®**

**JUNE 8, 2026**

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*U.S. Representative, Georgia*

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FOCUSED ON THE WORD

# Coming to Grips with the Religion of Environmentalism



**I**n our lifetime, the shift in aggregate, national religious belief has been radical. In essence, America has been in the process of changing horses: from the religion of Christianity to one of Radical Environmentalism. The American people are in the process of exchanging the worship of the Creator for the worship of His creation. This huge and dire error with extreme consequences, presages disaster.

The timeless truths of Genesis 1:26–31 had informed, guided, and dominated American thinking in the past. Make no mistake; our historic moorings, cultural understanding and obedience to what God says in this passage is the basis of America's greatness.

Our prayer is that this Bible study will help provide you with a clear, perspicuous understanding—the ability to cogently identify the differences between these two dueling worldviews.

Read on, friend!

**WEEKLY BIBLE STUDIES**

**White House Cabinet and Governors:** Wednesdays 8am (EST), light breakfast served  
**Senate Members:** Tuesdays 8am, rotating offices, hot breakfast served  
**House Members:** Thursdays 8am, Natural Resources, Longworth 1334, hot breakfast served

- WHITE HOUSE CABINET  
AMBASSADORS  
AND GOVERNORS**
- Alex Acosta* DC
  - Mike Braun* IN
  - Phil Bryant* MS
  - Dr. Ben Carson* DC
  - Mike Dunleavy* AK
  - Greg Gianforte* MT
  - Mark Gordon* WY
  - Pete Hegseth* DC
  - Mike Huckabee* DC
  - Sarah Huckabee Sanders* AR
  - Mike Keboe* MO
  - Markwayne Mullin* DC
  - David Perdue* DC
  - Sonny Perdue* GA
  - Rick Perry* TX
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  - Tate Reeves* MS
  - Kim Reynolds* IA
  - Brooke Rollins* DC
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  - Bill Cassidy* LA
  - Kevin Cramer* ND
  - Steven Daines* MT
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  - David Rouzer* NC
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*The views expressed in each Bible Study are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the position of any individual Bible Study sponsor.*



PUBLIC SERVANT  
ENDORSEMENT

**Rick Allen**

*U.S. Representative, Georgia*



“This Bible study helps me apply biblical principles as a public servant. ... We cannot compromise our biblical values that sustain us.”

## I. INTRODUCTION

For years, global warming advocates professed that the California drought was a precursor of things to come. But they abandoned that alarm as soon as California experienced an extremely wet year. In 2017 heavy rainfall and runoff filled all reservoirs, which caused water to be dumped into the Pacific Ocean at such a voracious rate that the spillway of Oroville Dam was seriously damaged. A San Francisco newspaper’s headline, which attested to that shift in thinking, read, “Is California Overdue for Biblical, Catastrophic Flooding? History Says It Could Be.”

Such sudden, radical swings in climate theory prove to be both destructive to credibility and astonishingly amusing!

What seems to go largely unnoticed is that the 180-degree turn around of the radical doomsday climate-change folks contradicts what God’s Word states in this regard. In terms of worldwide drought, God says, *“He causes His sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous”* (Matthew 5:45). Notice that God’s common grace promises rain even to the unrighteous! And in Genesis 9:11 God says to the flood theorists, *“I establish My covenant with you; and all flesh shall never again be cut off by the water of the flood, neither shall there again be a flood to destroy the earth.”* In the Sermon on the Mount, God promises to always send us rain, and after the flood of Noah, God promises He would never flood the Earth again.

Other related passages of Scripture serve to contradict the idea that man, by himself, can destroy his earthly habitat. For example, Psalm 104:30 states, *You send forth Your Spirit, they are created; and You renew the face of the ground.* God says He will continually renew the face of the Earth until He forms a new heaven and a new Earth in the end times (Revelation 21:1).

In the thousands of years of climate history since these words were recorded, the veracity of God’s promises has proven to be reliable. So, whom then should we trust?

**To think that man can alter the Earth’s ecosystem—when God remains omniscient, omnipresent, and omnipotent in the current affairs of mankind—is to espouse an ultrahubristic, secular worldview relative to the supremacy and importance of man.**

We can all rest assured and wholly rely on God’s promises pertaining to His ability and willingness to sustain our world’s ecosystem!

What glorious truths God has given us! They run smack in the face of the secular fad theorists who try to scare us with global warming or now, suddenly, flooding!

What has set America apart from other nations of the world has been the strong presupposition of its innovators who have stewarded the natural resources of the country in ways that add value to them and thereby benefit others. This premise is based on a mindset that assumes both the utility of natural resources and the value they possess to help others—the assumptions that God salutes when He created the world in which we live.

Notice these two aspects from Genesis 1:26–31, our passage of study:

*Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female*



*He created them. God blessed them; and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it; and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.” Then God said, “Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the surface of all the earth, and every tree which has fruit yielding seed; it shall be food for you; and to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the sky and to every thing that moves on the earth which has life, I have given every green plant for food”; and it was so. God saw all that He had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.*

The psalmist in Psalm eight reinforces the idea that God has given man dominion over His creation:

*What is man that You take thought of him, and the son of man that You care for him? Yet You have made him a little lower than God, and You crown him with glory and majesty! You make him to rule over the works of Your hands; You have put all things under his feet, all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field, the birds of the heavens and the fish of the sea, whatever passes through the paths of the seas” (vv. 4–8).*

The psalmist reinforces the idea that man has been created in the image of God and has been given dominion over all of the Earth, and if not specifically stated in these passages, elsewhere in Scripture is the idea of man’s living to help others (cf. Philippians 2).

**While Scripture clearly teaches that man is the apex of God’s purposes and creation, the primary purpose and belief of Radical Environmentalism is the preservation of the Earth.**

Inevitably, these worldviews clash. Certainly, inherent in the Christian view of the world’s resources is the understanding of good stewardship, but that perception is not good enough for radical environmentalists who in essence idolize and worship the Earth; theirs is the demand to limit the progress and expansion of mankind. The Earth is the highest good in their way of thinking—not man; and to them, God is a myth, harmless at best, but potentially dangerous. Make no mistake; the difference between secular preservationists and Christian conservationists is big.

One illustration of this clashing worldview is California water. In an average year of California rainfall, God blesses the state with 200-million-acre feet of fresh water. On average, that water is enough to supply the annual needs of 400 million households—or about 1.2 billion people—enough water to supply all the needs of India or China.

Of that huge supply, only 20-million-acre feet are presently utilized; the remainder is lost—if not absorbed in the soil—allowed to flow back into the Pacific Ocean because environmentalists refuse to allow additional storage lakes to be built. And of the 20-million-acre feet that is captured, 15 million goes for agriculture and only 5 million is allotted to residential use!<sup>1</sup> **In other words, only 2.5 percent of California’s fresh water supply is directly used by households—and yet there is an outcry to limit household usage!**

In fact, in order to secure tunneling under the Delta (as a substitute for the long overdue peripheral canal project) so as to deliver more northern California water to the Bay Area and Southern California (75 percent of the population lives in the north), the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California had to agree not to expand its water usage—as if California water were somehow in short supply!

VERSE OF THE WEEK



## Romans 1:25

*For they exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator.*



Let us not exchange the worship of the Creator for the worship of His creation.





MINISTRY UPDATE

# God’s Call to the Arizona Capitol: Pastor Brent Loveless Reflects on 12 Years of Ministry



What began as a reluctant “yes” to God has now become 12 years of faithful ministry at the Arizona State Capitol for Capitol Ministries Arizona Ministry Leader Brent Loveless.

Pastor Brent explained that the ministry first began as a local church outreach before becoming part of Capitol Ministries seven years ago. Throughout the process, North Valley Baptist Church remains closely involved—helping support weekly luncheons and encouraging elected officials through personal connections and special church services.

Over the years, Pastor Brent has personally walked alongside lawmakers and their families through some of life’s most

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Such backwards thinking leads to conditions like the dry reservoirs experienced during the Palisades fire last year, when thousands of homes were lost due to a lack of water to fight the blaze.

The water situation in California is an apt illustration of Radical Environmentalism’s attempt to limit the growth of mankind in the state by curtailing the supply of water—even though there is more than enough to go around. At the core of the tense, decades-old water battle in California are dueling worldviews: one says that people are most important, the other says that the environment is.

Indeed, Governor Pat Brown, who was the state governor from 1959 to 1967, pioneered the California Aqueduct many decades ago. Before the religion of Radical Environmentalism prevailed, the state engineers designed the aqueduct to carry three times more water to Southern California than it ever has. That is to say, the state’s religious understanding has changed between the time of his leadership and his son’s. In all fairness, his son, Governor Jerry Brown (who served from 1975 to 1983 and 2011 to 2019) championed the Delta tunnel project in lieu of the peripheral canal, which his father had envisioned from the get-go. But having given Governor Jerry credit, his tunnel project had much less capacity than his dad’s original peripheral canal plan.

Accordingly, a person’s worldview inevitably determines how public servants and the nation as a whole utilize (or fail to utilize) natural resources for the betterment of others. Therefore, what informs your worldview becomes most important. In light of this, notice what God says from the first chapter of His Book.

## II. THE HIERARCHY OF GOD’S CREATIONAL ORDER OF THE WORLD

Genesis 1:26–31 yields significant insights into the uniqueness of man that

God has specified. Here God distinguishes mankind from the remainder of His creation. After creating the heavens, light, land, atmosphere, and the sea, God creates the fish, birds, and animals (Genesis 1:1–25). Subsequent to all that, He creates man and woman. But notice an exclusive difference: God creates man unlike any other previously created creature. Humans will be *in Our image, according to Our likeness*, states Genesis 1:26.<sup>2</sup>

This critically important exclusive difference places man in a distinctly different position from the remainder of the created order. Both of the Hebrew words, *image (tselem)* and *likeness (demuth)* carry the idea of man’s being a reflection or a resemblance of God’s communicable attributes and characteristics—in the sense of intellect, emotion, will, and morality. No other created life has all of these distinctions. Therefore, man is unique: *You have put all things under his feet* states the psalmist in Psalm 8:6.

### The Hierarchy of God’s Created Order

**GOD**  
**MAN**

.....

- Animals*
- Birds*
- Fish*
- Insects*
- Microbiology*

God has placed man in a superior position over the remainder of creation. This is fundamentally important because it forecasts God’s intention: that the remainder of creation is to serve man. Notice the line of demarcation relative to the biblical order of creation.



Compare this understanding of creation-hierarchy to other belief systems. For instance, in India, pantheism<sup>3</sup> lies at the root of much of its national beliefs. Accordingly, there is no line of demarcation in the created order, which means the rat has as much right to the corn in the cupboard as does the child. In California, where the religion of Radical Environmentalism reigns supremely, it means the fish has just as much right to the stream as does the dam builder. The pumping of water for people is curtailed if the delta smelt fish could be sucked into a turbine.

In God's eyes, man is the highest good in His creation; man reigns preeminent over all of the rest of creation—and yes, in reigning he does so with respect to the Creator of creation, to whom he must answer. Yes, he ameliorates for the life of the smelt, but at the end of the day, the smelt doesn't rule his life; rather, he rules the smelt's life. The late Christian apologist Francis Schaeffer is right when he stated, "So the Bible tells me who I am. It tells me how I am differentiated from all other things. I do not need to be confused, therefore, between myself and animal life."<sup>4</sup>

**The biblically informed public servant must, therefore, order his thinking in light of God's revealed hierarchy in creation.**

In creating the world, God expects man to reign and steward His creation in ways that are pleasing unto Him. Lest there be any doubt about man's being the height of God's created order, the one in charge, the psalmist adds in 115:16:

*The heavens are the heavens of the LORD, but the earth He has given to the sons of men.*

### III. THE HOUSEKEEPERS OF GOD'S CREATIONAL ORDER OF THE WORLD

In God's hierarchy of creation man is atop and is to rule over all of creation and subdue it (Genesis 1:26, 28). Notice these words: *rule* and *subdue*. They define how man is to operate in his preeminent role within creation. Not only is he given the unique identity of being created in God's image, but he is also tasked with the charge to *rule* and *subdue*.

**The Creator has appointed man as the warden of His possession.**

Man is to *fill the earth* (v. 28) and oversee its operation as a stewardship responsibility. Note that the word *subdue* does not carry with it a bulldozer mentality. When commenting on Genesis, Ian McHarg, one of the world's foremost landscape architects, said in summary of his thinking, "If ever there was justification for a bulldozer mentality, this verse is it." But what McHarg failed to see is the biblical context of the passage: mankind has inherent stewardship responsibilities before the Creator, as is borne by the very fact that this right of dominion is given before the Fall, which does not occur until Genesis chapter 3. Post-Fall, yes, man can and does sinfully alter his steward responsibilities if left unchecked (which is why evangelizing the lost is the most important discipline for achieving the ultimate stewardship of the planet). Unfortunately, McHarg elected to ignore the ideas of biblical *rule* and *subdue*, substituting and believing another religion, pantheism, was the best religion for planet stewardship.<sup>5</sup>

Inherent in making His pronouncement in Genesis 1:21 and 31 that all He created is *good*, God expected then and continues to expect that mankind will not reconfigure or destroy that which He put him in

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difficult and meaningful moments: through funerals and personal struggles, Pastor Brent counseled, prayed, and encouraged them one-on-one. Through these genuine relationships and ongoing pastoral care, many lawmakers were drawn to the weekly Capitol Ministries Bible study, which at times filled the room with more than 20 members in attendance—some even standing throughout the entire study due to limited space.

Pastor Brent believes strongly that political leaders represent an important mission field that Christians cannot ignore.

"Some believers are hesitant to serve political leaders or even pray for them," Brent shared. "We are commissioned to bring the salt and light of God's Word where it is needed most, including places of governing authority."

The early days of the ministry were not easy.

As Pastor Brent began meeting with legislators in preparation for launching the Bible study, many declined his invitation. Others told him the schedule he originally planned would never work. Slowly, through conversations, prayer, and providential relationships, doors began to open.

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One key connection came through a church member who introduced Pastor Brent to Arizona Representative Steve Montenegro, a legislator who had previously participated in a Capitol Bible study. That meeting became a turning point and helped establish the foundation for the ministry that continues today.



Over the past 12 years, Pastor Brent has faithfully ministered to public servants through the consistent teaching of God's Word. His testimony is a reminder that many ministry opportunities begin not with confidence, but with obedience. What once seemed unlikely became a long-term calling through God's faithful leading.

charge of. Rather, states one leading Evangelical commentator regarding these passages, these words “speak of a productive ordering of the Earth and its inhabitants to yield its riches and accomplish God’s purposes.”<sup>6</sup>

This foundational, biblically based way of thinking accelerated America’s launch into world leadership. Rockefeller’s innovation of the use of gasoline (a byproduct from the production of lamp oil), Carnegie’s innovation of steel alloy from iron, Morgan’s investment in the creation of electricity, the harnessing of water by Hoover Dam and its transportation by the Metropolitan Water District and Mulholland’s importation of the same from the Sierra Nevada—all gave birth to American innovation and the industrial revolution!

Here’s the point: such ruling and subordination of natural resources were largely done by Christians whose minds and actions were informed by Genesis 1! Such fundamental subjugation of natural resources then gave rise to efficient modern agriculture, energy production, transportation, architecture, and the like. The current trend now, to move away from this biblical understanding, drastically challenges the American way of life, our world leadership in innovation, and our very quality of life.<sup>7</sup>

This is perhaps best illustrated by a classic interview with William Gould, the retired CEO of Southern California Edison (SCE) and the father of the western power grid. Gould remarked about a 1984 summit meeting with environmental leaders in Salt Lake City and how the meeting went sideways. To summarize, environmentalists exclaimed that they had enough laws on the books to hinder the development of any new power plants. Gould went on to say how the development of the San Onofre Nuclear Power Plant was a nightmare due to continual public lawsuits. He remarked that SCE

would never attempt another due to huge cost overruns coupled with the insecurity of ever being able to come on line. Subsequently, other power developers left the state for greener pastures. Therein was the seedbed for the California electrical crisis—a shortage threat that still persists on hot summer days. Now years later, radical environmentalists have succeeded in shutting down the world’s most efficient way to produce electricity—and with technological advances, now one of the safest.

It’s very plain to see that countries such as India which possess similar natural resources but hold to dissimilar beliefs experience incessant intractability. But such is the exact same road on which America finds herself due to her disregard and rejection of what God so clearly exclaims in Genesis!

**To allow fish to govern  
the construction of dams,  
endangered species to  
govern power plants, flies  
to govern hospitals, or  
kangaroo rats, homes is to  
miss the clear proclamation  
of God in Genesis.**

God calls all public servants and citizens to walk in the confidence of His hierarchy of creation with an understanding of our housekeeping responsibilities. For Americans to discount Genesis is for America to walk backward.

When the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California had the foresight to increase water storage to assure delivery during drought years, they spent over \$3 billion constructing the Diamond Valley Reservoir, which holds an additional 800-million-acre feet of water. As wise a stewardship responsibility this was to insure water for 17 million people who live in Southern California, \$1 billion ended up having to be paid to fight and assuage



the lawsuits of the radical environmentalists who managed to delay the project for ten years. In contrast, during more recent California drought years, the non-subduing radical environmentalists of Marin County have had to rig water pipes across the Richmond Bridge in order to keep their citizens from dying of thirst. That's what happens when endangered species rule over people.

**The false religion of Radical Environmentalism leads to human poverty and cultural insolvency.**

Friend, this religion of environmentalism is not a very good religion on which to base a country! America's problems are not so much rooted in a lack of creativity, markets, or conveyance as much as they are with religious beliefs—unlike the religion of environmentalism—the Christian religion's organizational chart relative to creation is not aberrant.

**IV. THE HARVEST OF GOD'S CREATIONAL ORDER OF THE WORLD**

Continuing in the first chapter of Genesis, verses 29 and 30 specifically reveal that God's purpose in creating the world was for man's betterment and enjoyment. More specifically, the plants, animals, birds, and every moving thing were created by God to be man's food. Without the aid of Scripture, a person might suppose that this is a greedy self-centered way for man to view other living inhabitants sharing the planet. Certainly, that has been the conclusion of many who reject the inspiration and authority of God's Word; it is easy to see how people could arrive at such conclusions apart from God's Word!

But God reassures man in verse 31 that not only were His creation and hierarchy

*very good*—but that what He also created was and is to serve as mankind's multivariate forms of food.

**Man need not feel guilty for his bountiful living. His basis for such is not arrogance; it is revelation!**

Opposite the effacing anthropology of the radical environmentalist, Scripture unabashedly proclaims man's superiority in the world over all else. Again, Psalm 115:16 states, *But the earth He has given to the sons of men.* Further to the point, 1 Timothy 4:1–4 castigates those (and their religion) who fail to understand God's will on this matter and powerfully states:

*But the Spirit explicitly says that in later times some will ... advocate abstaining from foods which God has created to be gratefully shared in by those who believe and know the truth. For everything created by God is good, and nothing is to be rejected.*

**V. SUMMARY**

God is pleased when organic and inorganic substances, the lesser of creation, are utilized to benefit those uniquely created in His image. Conversely, He is greatly displeased when humans inappropriately exalt His creation and worship it at His expense. Romans 1:21–25 underscores this displeasure:

*For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God. ... Professing to be wise, they became fools, and exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible man and of birds and four-footed animals and crawling creatures. ... For they exchanged the truth of God for a lie,*

*and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator.*

In a culminating crescendo of recurring biblical teaching, herein the worship of God's creation instead of God Himself is deemed as *foolishness*. God has harsh words for those who *profess to be wise* with biblically unenlightened ideology. Don't be counted among these people. If you are among them, you need to come to Christ!

There are three conclusions very applicable to the life of a public servant as a result of this study.

**A. GOD IS PRO-MANKIND**

The God of the Bible is pro-mankind. Because He loves us and wants to bless us, He gave us a planet full of abundant natural resources! It is true that the Fall has made those natural resources more difficult to realize for our good; nonetheless, He has not removed them from us. The religion of Radical Environmentalism, on the other hand, is anti-mankind. All that the proponents have left in their twisted way of thinking, which is devoid of acknowledging, serving, and worshipping God, is the physical world around them in which they find themselves. As if to think they are on the moral high ground, their religion is bent on keeping man from that which God has intended for his betterment.

**B. THERE IS GREAT POLITICAL VALUE IN HOLDING ONTO THE GENESIS UNDERSTANDING**

There is much political value in holding to the Genesis order of creation. It is important to communicate through your actions and voting record that people are of greater importance and worth than anything else in your district—both animate and inanimate objects—because at the end of the day, only human beings are eligible to vote. (At least at this point in



American history, fish can't vote.) Stand for the betterment of common people rather than members of the "enlightened class" who deprive others of making a living and forging a better life.

### C. DIRE DEMOGRAPHIC AND POLITICAL CONSEQUENCES ARE IN STORE FOR RADICAL ENVIRONMENTALISTS

Well worth noting is the demographic consequences of Radical Environmentalism. Those advocating this position tend to have had only one child, if that, in the last two decades. Accordingly,

estimated that the biblical ideological group has outproduced environmentalists by six million children. Those six million children are just now reaching voting status. Said another way, young Americans raised with a Christian worldview will soon outnumber the children of radical environmentalists by at least six million voters in coming elections. Indeed, the scriptural truth that *your sin will find you out* will soon be realized across the country. With God's blessing, the religion of Radical Environmentalism will soon be relegated to fringe minority status in American society. Amen.

1. Per statistics from the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.
2. The words "Us" and "Our" in this passage are indicative of the Trinitarian nature of God (cf. Deuteronomy 6:4).
3. Meaning God is in everything.
4. Schaeffer, Francis, *Genesis in Space and Time* (London: Hodder and Stoughton Limited, 1972), 51.
5. McHarg, Ian L., *Design with Nature* (Garden City: New York, Doubleday/Natural History Press, 1971), 68.
6. MacArthur, John, *MacArthur Study Bible: New American Standard Version* (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 2006), 17.
7. *Insight Magazine*; Spring 2001.

**What radical environmentalists have committed is akin to ethnic suicide; let's call it ideological suicide.**

Those believing in the biblical truth of multiplying and filling the Earth have continued to have large families. Since the advent of Radical Environmentalism in America in the last two decades, it is



*Making Disciples of Jesus Christ in the Political Arena Throughout the World*



Capitol Ministries provides Bible studies, evangelism, and discipleship to political leaders. Founded in 1996, Capitol Ministries has started ongoing ministries in more than forty U.S. state capitols and dozens of foreign federal capitols.

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