

# “End Times Study: Satan’s Foolish Attempt to Save the Planet”

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## Scripture

### Revelation 21:1-6

“Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for **the first heaven and the first earth passed away**, and there is no longer any sea. And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, **made ready as a bride adorned for her husband.**”

“And I heard a loud voice from the throne, saying, “Behold, the tabernacle of God is among men, and **He will dwell among them, and they shall be His people**, and God Himself will be among them, and He will wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there will no longer be any death; there will no longer be any mourning, or crying, or pain; **the first things have passed away.**”

“And He who sits on the throne said, “**Behold, I am making all things new.**” And He said, “**Write, for these words are faithful and true.**”

“Then He said to me, “**It is done.** I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end.”

## Last Week

We looked at the signs of the end times

- Global Warming
- Global Alignment of Nations

## This Week

Global Attempt to Save the Planet

**What initiatives have been spun up to save the planet?**

Nations and Companies Going Carbon Neutral

What is net zero?

Put simply, net zero means cutting greenhouse gas emissions to as close to zero as possible, with any remaining emissions re-absorbed from the atmosphere, by oceans and forests for instance.

Why is net zero important?

The science shows clearly that in order to avert the worst impacts of climate change and preserve a livable planet, global temperature increase needs to be limited to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels. Currently, the Earth is already about 1.1°C warmer than it was in the late 1800s, and emissions continue to rise. To keep global warming to no more than 1.5°C – as called for in the Paris Agreement – **emissions need to be reduced by 45% by 2030** and reach net zero by 2050.

## United Nations 2030 Plan -> 17 Stated Goals

**Goal 13** calls for urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts. It is intrinsically linked to all 16 of the other Goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. To address climate change, countries adopted the Paris Agreement to limit global temperature rise to well below 2 degrees Celsius.

**Goal 14** is about conserving and sustainably using the oceans, seas and marine resources. Healthy oceans and seas are essential to human existence and life on Earth.

**Goal 15** is about conserving life on land. It is to protect and restore terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and stop biodiversity loss.

## Catholic Church 2030 Goals

**'The Journey to 2030'** is a lay run campaign that aims to encourage the Catholic Church to make progress along a path to renewal by providing the necessary resources to parishes and individuals in order to engage with this urgent challenge of our ecological crisis.

It's aims are:

- To promote unity in action. We ask all people to use their varied skills and influence to make a difference.
- To create a sense of urgency towards our ecological crisis and those suffering from its ill effects.
- To promote the most effective actions in our race against time."

"We are a people of hope who believe in redemption. **We must study the signs of the times and take the action that is needed to repair our relationship with God's creation.** As is made clear in *The Call of Creation*, the exercise of the virtue of solidarity and the promotion of the common good, which are so needed at this time, are the responsibility of each and every individual and institution in society."

God created the world and established the weather patterns:

### **Psalm 148**

"Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens; Praise Him in the heights! Praise Him, all His angels; Praise Him, all His hosts! Praise Him, sun and moon; Praise Him, all stars of light! Praise Him, highest heavens, And the waters that are above the heavens!

5Let them praise the name of the LORD, For He commanded, and they were created. He has also established them forever and ever; He has made a decree which will not pass away. Praise the LORD from the earth, Sea monsters and all deeps; **Fire and hail, snow and clouds; Stormy wind, fulfilling His word"**

God will end this world in His time:

### **2 Peter 3:3-13**

"Know this first of all, that in the last days mockers will come with their mocking, following after their own lusts, and saying, "Where is the promise of His coming? For ever since the fathers fell asleep, all continues just as it was from the beginning of creation." For when they maintain this, it escapes their notice that by the word of God the heavens existed long ago and the earth was formed out of water and by water, through which the world at that time was destroyed, being flooded with water.

7But **by His word the present heavens and earth are being reserved for fire**, kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men. But do not let this one fact escape your notice, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years like one day. The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance.

10But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, in which **the heavens will pass away with a roar and the elements will be destroyed with intense heat, and the earth and its works will be burned up.**

11Since all these things are to be destroyed in this way, **what sort of people ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be destroyed by burning, and the elements will melt with intense heat!** But according to His promise we are looking for new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness dwells.”

In essence, Peter asks the rhetorical question about what believers should do

**What is his response?**

“in holy conduct and godliness, looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God”

Holy conduct -> holy is to be set apart from the world

The world is focused on saving the planet -> be **“set apart”** from that effort

Instead, look toward the coming of the Lord -> focus on His works in the world

Peter summarizes his view:

## **2 Peter 3:17-18**

“You, therefore, beloved, knowing this beforehand, be on your guard so that you are not carried away by the error of unprincipled men and fall from your own steadfastness, but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory, both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.”

**Should we try to save the planet?**

Car accident in water -> should we order a crane to pull the car out?

We should focus on saving the people, instead!

## **A New Earth from Heaven**

### **Revelation 21:1-2**

“Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for **the first heaven and the first earth passed away**, and there is no longer any sea. And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, **made ready as a bride adorned for her husband.**”

This earth is going away -> taken out by fire

The current earth is going to be disassembled by God at the end of the 7-year Tribulation

A cursory reading of **Revelation 16** shows you how God accomplishes that

## **New Relationships for His People**

### **Revelation 21:3-4**

“And I heard a loud voice from the throne, saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is among men, and **He will dwell among them, and they shall be His people**, and God Himself will be among them, and He will wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there will no longer be any death; there will no longer be any mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away.”

The tabernacle was a place of God’s presence with His people in the Old Testament

It will be the future as well - Emmanuel means “God with us”

Isaiah wrote of the new heavens and new earth:

### **Isaiah 65:17-25**

“For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth; and **the former things will not be remembered or come to mind**. "But be glad and rejoice forever in what I create; For behold, **I create Jerusalem for rejoicing and her people for gladness**.

19"I will also rejoice in Jerusalem and be glad in My people; and there will no longer be heard in her the voice of weeping and the sound of crying. "No longer will there be in it an infant who lives but a few days, or an old man who does not live out his days; For the youth will die at the age of one hundred and the one who does not reach the age of one hundred will be thought accursed.

21"**They will build houses and inhabit them**; They will also plant vineyards and eat their fruit. "They will not build and another inhabit, They will not plant and another eat; For as the lifetime of a tree, so will be the days of My people, and My chosen ones will wear out the work of their hands. "They will not labor in vain, or bear children for calamity; For they are the offspring of those blessed by the LORD, and their descendants with them. "It will also come to pass that before they call, I will answer; and while they are still speaking, I will hear. "The wolf and the lamb will graze together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox; and dust will be the serpent's food. They will do no evil or harm in all My holy mountain," says the LORD.”

## **All Things Made New**

### **Revelation 21:5**

“And He who sits on the throne said, "**Behold, I am making all things new.**" And He said, "**Write, for these words are faithful and true.**”

“new” is *kainos* in the Greek-> new in quality not in chronologically

He tells John to write it down, so that His people would know about the future

## It is Done!

### Revelation 21:6

“Then He said to me, “**It is done.** I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end.”

“done” -> *ginomai* - the word for “birthed” or “to become”

God says, succinctly, it’s going to happen

It is the ball that has already left the pitchers hand and is going to the plate

Alpha -> He is the beginning

Omega -> He is the end

**This is the END STATE!**

### Prayer

### Benediction