

## GLOBAL WARMING: WHAT CAN WE DO?

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### 1 What's the issue?

The earth is getting hotter. This climate change is due to the 'greenhouse effect', in which gases in the atmosphere are trapping the heat from the sun and raising the average temperature of the world. The effects are far-reaching and not all predictable. The greenhouse gases are largely due to human activity, so it is possible the warming can be stopped or slowed down. But if we don't tackle it the warming will increase and may even pass a 'tipping point' and get out of control.<sup>1</sup>

### 2 Why is it a Christian issue?

First, *we are stewards of God's creation* (Gen 2:15). The created order (including humanity) is the work of God; God is intimately expressed in all we see. The material universe is declared by God in the Genesis account of creation to be good (Gen 1). So we are called to nourish life, refrain from degrading creation and live in balance and harmony with nature.

Second, *the renewal of nature is part of God's cosmic mission*. Creation groans as a result of human alienation from God (Rom 8:19-23) — our mistreatment of our own environment is an outworking of our greed. Restoring a proper relationship with creation is one dimension of the restoring of all relationships. Ecology teaches us that everything is connected. Theology agrees; it sees the spiritual as bound up with the material, earth with heaven.

Third, *it's a justice issue: global warming is likely to affect the poor the most*. Although we can't predict all the consequences of warming, many of the poor live in low-lying and vulnerable regions—two thirds of Bangladesh, for example, is a densely populated alluvial plain which is often flooded. Much of southern China and many Pacific Islands are other examples.

Climate change will force millions to move, and the poorest always suffer most in times of dislocation. As well, extreme weather events always affect the poor most, as we saw in the New Orleans hurricane and the Pakistan earthquake in 2005.

### 3 Is the earth really warming?

Temperatures at the earth's surface rose around 0.8°C in the 20th century.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Spencer Weart, 'The discovery of global warming', American Institute of Physics, <[www.aip.org/history/climate/SWnote.htm](http://www.aip.org/history/climate/SWnote.htm)>, 2006.

<sup>2</sup> Dinyar Godrej, *The no-nonsense guide to climate change* (Oxford: New Internationalist Publications, 2001), 13.

The hottest five years on record have occurred in the eight years beginning 1997, and 2005 was the hottest on record.<sup>3</sup> Studies released in 2006 show that the atmosphere temperature in the Antarctic has risen more than 0.6°C per decade since 1975.<sup>4</sup>

The average sea level rose 10 to 20 cm in the twentieth century.<sup>5</sup>

Glaciers are melting, polar ice cover is retreating and snow cover is reducing.<sup>6</sup>

Plant growing areas and animal habitats are moving poleward and towards higher elevations as it gets warmer.<sup>7</sup>

Warmer ocean temperatures are dramatically affecting the El Niño-La Niña Pacific Ocean climate cycle.<sup>8</sup>

There are some who doubt that it's happening. But the evidence has grown so much in the last ten years, there is nearly complete scientific consensus on two things: that significant warming is occurring, and that it is mostly due to human activity. There are still anti-environmental lobby groups well-funded by oil companies, and anti-regulation and pro-free market groups.<sup>9</sup>

#### 4 What causes it?

Global warming is very complex, with many factors, some of which may be naturally occurring. But the human factor is now abundantly clear.

There are three main greenhouse gases, whose levels in the atmosphere have increased significantly in the last century with increased human use:

**Carbon dioxide** is the biggest problem. It is released by burning fossil fuels (coal, oil, petrol, gas and wood). Its pre-1750 level in the atmosphere was stable for 10,000 years at 280 parts per million. It is now about 380 ppm and predictions for 2100 range from 540 to 970 ppm, with most scientists working on the assumption that the levels will roughly double in this century.<sup>10</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> <[www.nasa.gov/vision/earth/environment/2005\\_warmest.html](http://www.nasa.gov/vision/earth/environment/2005_warmest.html)>.

<sup>4</sup> Testimony of Jay Gullede, Pew Center on Global Climate Change, to the US Senate House Committee on Government Reform, 20 July 2006, <[www.pewclimate.org/docUploads/Science\\_Testimony\\_72006.pdf](http://www.pewclimate.org/docUploads/Science_Testimony_72006.pdf)>.

<sup>5</sup> John Houghton, *Global warming: The complete briefing*, 3rd ed. (Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, 2004), 146.

<sup>6</sup> Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), 'Climate change: Synthesis report. Summary for policymakers', <[www.ipcc.ch/pub/un/syreng/spm.pdf](http://www.ipcc.ch/pub/un/syreng/spm.pdf)>, Date of material 2001.

<sup>7</sup> IPCC 2001, 6.

<sup>8</sup> Tim Flannery, *The weather makers: The history and future impact of climate change* (Melbourne: Text Publishing, 2005), 86.

<sup>9</sup> For example the web site 'GlobalWarming.org' comes up high in a Google search on global warming and represents the 'Cooler Heads Coalition', aiming to exposing 'myths about warming'. It is openly an initiative of a coalition dedicated to the rule of the free market. <[www.globalwarming.org](http://www.globalwarming.org)>.

<sup>10</sup> IPCC2001, 8.

Australia is among the highest users of carbon in the world, second only to the US (per person). It refused to sign the Kyoto Agreement of 1997 in which the very modest target of reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 5.2% globally by 2010 was set. Only Australia and the US have refused to sign.<sup>11</sup> We recently signed up to another agreement, called the Asia Pacific Partnership on Clean Development and Climate, which doesn't restrict the use of gas and coal much and has no rules for enforcement.<sup>12</sup>

Motor transport accounts for 15-20% of the six billion tons of carbon emission from human activity that occurs each year.<sup>13</sup>

**Methane** levels in the atmosphere were constant for hundreds of years but then have more than doubled since 1800. The main sources are decomposing organic material and natural gas. Some occurs naturally, but increases are traceable to more coal mining, natural gas and petrol; rice paddies; the belching of cattle and sheep; rotting landfill; and the burning of wood and peat.<sup>14</sup>

**Chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs)** are very stable (lasting one or two hundred years). They are a very powerful greenhouse gas (five to ten thousand times as powerful as carbon), contributing about 20% of the greenhouse effect. They have now been banned but their use in the 1980s significantly contributed to the greenhouse effect.<sup>15</sup> Their replacement, hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs), though less stable and not destroying the ozone layer, may cause warming problems as their use increases.

## 5 What are the predicted consequences?

### a Hotter temperatures

In 2001 the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) predicted rises, between 1990 and 2100, of between 1.4°C and 5.8°C.<sup>16</sup> The largest study done to date, in 2005, upped the range to between 1.9°C and 11.2°C.<sup>17</sup>

This is not only leading to unprecedented heat waves in parts of the world, but is the cause of all the other predicted consequences.

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<sup>11</sup> Australia, amazingly, negotiated a target of an 8% increase, but then refused to sign. Ian Lowe, *Living in the hothouse: How global warming affects Australia* (Melbourne: Scribe, 2005), 187.

<sup>12</sup> <[www.dfat.gov.au/environment/climate/ap6/](http://www.dfat.gov.au/environment/climate/ap6/)>.

<sup>13</sup> Lester R Brown, *The state of the world 1999: A Worldwatch Institute report on progress toward a sustainable society* (New York: W W Norton and Company, 1999), 143.

<sup>14</sup> Houghton, *Global warming*, 43.

<sup>15</sup> Houghton, *Global warming*, 43-47.

<sup>16</sup> IPCC 2001, 8.

<sup>17</sup> Flannery, *The weather makers*, 161.

**b Higher sea levels**

IPCC predictions are for a rise this century between 0.09m and 0.89m.<sup>18</sup> Not only would this flood many low-lying areas and coastal cities, but it would destroy one-third of the world's croplands, due to the land and below-surface water near the coast becoming salty and to storm surges and occasional flooding. Up to 40% of Bangladesh could be covered by surges within 50 years.<sup>19</sup>

**c Changed rainfall patterns**

Rainfall patterns are highly complex and difficult to predict.

Some areas will get more and will benefit. Northern Australia (such as outback Queensland) may be an example. But many cold areas, such as northern Europe and Canada, will get more rain (often instead of snow) and may suffer avalanches, sodden fields and winter floods.

Other areas will suffer 'permanent drought'. South-western West Australia is experiencing it now. The average amount of water flowing into Perth's water catchments has decreased from 338 gegalitres (1911-1974) to 120 gegalitres (1997-2004).<sup>20</sup> Adelaide is also particularly vulnerable.

Scientist Barrie Pittock says of Australia:

Evidence suggests that the observed warming trend in Australia has already contributed to an increased severity of drought through higher potential evaporation and water demand.<sup>21</sup>

**d Altered agricultural patterns**

As with rainfall, some will benefit as altered climate affects what can be grown or grazed. But most scientific studies suggest that large rapid changes in climate will lead to decreased yield overall, particularly in tropical climates and cereal-growing climates.

Various insect pests and fungal diseases affecting plants would flourish in warmer climates, making it difficult to keep crops pest-free.<sup>22</sup>

Many factors, such as dislocation of farmers, different pests, stressed ecological systems and unpredictable rainfall are likely to send food prices up in the long term.<sup>23</sup>

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<sup>18</sup> IPCC 2001, 9.

<sup>19</sup> Godrej, *The no-nonsense guide to climate change*, 60-61.

<sup>20</sup> Flannery, *The weather makers*, 124-131.

<sup>21</sup> Barrie Pittock, 'Climate change: An Australian guide to the science and potential impacts', Australian Greenhouse Office, <[www.greenhouse.gov.au/science/guide/](http://www.greenhouse.gov.au/science/guide/)>.

<sup>22</sup> Godrej, *The no-nonsense guide to climate change* 58.

**e More extreme events**

Greater weather extremes and more unpredictable weather-events are expected, with more heatwaves, cold snaps, rainstorms, floods, droughts, severe cyclones and hurricanes, variable monsoons, intense bushfires, and deeper El-Niño-type patterns are predicted.<sup>24</sup>

Severe weather events are likely to be the consequence of global warming that will have the greatest human impact, as people's lives are turned upside down by flood, storms and cyclones of a size we have not seen before.<sup>25</sup>

Although we don't know how likely it is, the greater the global warming the greater the likelihood of a major breakdown in an ecosystem, where the balance is totally lost and massive and possibly irreversible disruption sets in. The IPCC scientists call this a long-term risk of 'large-scale, high-impact, non-linear, and potentially abrupt changes'.<sup>26</sup>

**f Extinction of species**

When oceans get too hot, coral reefs expel their colourful algae and are therefore 'bleached', as happened in 1998, the second hottest year on record. If severe enough, this bleaching will kill the coral.

Polar bears are not getting enough time to hunt during the big freeze in Alaska and Canada — because it is getting shorter — and are under threat.

Some species will adapt, but many will be under threat as the conditions and habitat change radically.<sup>27</sup>

**g Less snow and ice**

The summer ice line of the Arctic Sea has retracted 20% since 1979. Africa's tallest mountain, Kilimanjaro, which had twelve square kilometres of snow in 1900, had only two square kilometres in 2000, and is likely to be snowless by 2020.<sup>28</sup> Australia's snowfields, which already suffer from short seasons, will contract substantially.<sup>29</sup>

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<sup>23</sup> IPCC 2001, 12.

<sup>24</sup> IPCC 2001, 14-15.

<sup>25</sup> Houghton, *Global warming*, 179.

<sup>26</sup> IPCC 2001, 14.

<sup>27</sup> Godrej, *The no-nonsense guide to climate change*, 70-84; Flannery, *The weather makers*, 114-122.

<sup>28</sup> Lowe, *Living in the hothouse*, 54.

<sup>29</sup> Lowe, *Living in the hothouse*, 66-67.

## **h     Uncertainty**

Climate change is occurring very rapidly, so future patterns are hard to predict. The costs of adjustment, responding to disasters, helping those whose livelihoods are wiped out and learning what the changes mean are very high. Some estimate them to be as high as one or two per cent of GDP.<sup>30</sup>

## **6     Is it all bad?**

It is true that a warmer climate may lead in some areas to a more pleasant lifestyle, more rain and the ability to grow crops that were not possible before. Some will benefit as a by-product.

But the scientific consensus is that the negative consequence far outweigh the positive. Not only are the major problems above highly likely; we simply do not know what other things will happen.

Global warming is the radical change of our environment (after thousands of years of stability or slow change) due to human activity.

The changes will hit the poorer much harder than the rich.<sup>31</sup> It happens already. 99% of those killed in natural disasters in 1999 were from the developing world. Although only 43% of floods (from 1987 to 1996) were in Asia, they accounted for 93% of flood-related deaths.<sup>32</sup>

## **7     What can the Australian government do?**

(Not in any special order)

### **a     Commit to the Kyoto Agreement levels of greenhouse gas emissions as a very modest start**

In 1997 every country except Australia and the US agreed to goals for 2010 emission levels. Although Australia bargained hard for lenient treatment and was offered a level 8% above 1990 levels, it has refused to sign, on the curious basis that more action is needed and Kyoto was a deficient agreement. Australia is likely to reach the target anyway, with easy measures such as reduced land clearing, but the next steps will be more difficult without joining the international carbon trading scheme.<sup>33</sup>

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<sup>30</sup> Houghton, *Global warming*, 184.

<sup>31</sup> Evangelical Climate Initiative, 'Climate change: An evangelical call to action', <[www.christiansandclimate.org/statement](http://www.christiansandclimate.org/statement)>, Date of material 2006; Christian Aid, 'Global warming, unnatural disasters and the world's poor', <[www.christian-aid.org.uk/indepth/0011glob/globwarm.htm](http://www.christian-aid.org.uk/indepth/0011glob/globwarm.htm)>, Date of material 2000.

<sup>32</sup> Godrej, *The no-nonsense guide to climate change*, 33.

<sup>33</sup> Australian Greenhouse Office, 'Tracking to the Kyoto target 2005: Australia's greenhouse emissions trends 1990 to 2008-2012 and 2020',

**b Commit to radical reductions in greenhouse gases**

Scientists talk about reductions of 50 to 70% as being needed to reverse global warming. The UK has committed to 60% reduction by 2050.<sup>34</sup>

**c Create a mandatory greenhouse gas reporting and trading system**

Introduce a system where greenhouse gases are capped and traded ('carbon trading'), providing penalties for high emissions and rewards for reduced emissions.<sup>35</sup>

The Australian states are discussing such a system, as the Federal government is not committed to one.

**d Reduce transport-generated greenhouse emissions**

A concerted effort is needed to develop public transport, design cities better, fund research into fuel-efficient cars, and promote bio-fuels (such as ethanol, biodiesel and sugar cane), hydrogen and other low-greenhouse alternatives.<sup>36</sup>

The government could also tax cars with a high fuel consumption.

**e Commit research and financial incentives for renewable energy such as wind, solar, wave and hydro-electric power<sup>37</sup>**

Nuclear energy is omitted from this call due to its financial unviability, its inherent danger, the risk of providing materials for nuclear bombs and the difficulty of long term storage of waste.

**f Plan for the effects of climate change, such as less water in some places, rising sea levels and cyclones further south than previously<sup>38</sup>**

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<[www.greenhouse.gov.au/projections/pubs/tracking2005.pdf](http://www.greenhouse.gov.au/projections/pubs/tracking2005.pdf)>; Colin Hunt, 'Australia's greenhouse policy', *Australian Journal of Environmental Management* 2004), available at <<http://colinhunt.zenburger.com/australiangreenhouse.html>>.

<sup>34</sup> Lowe, *Living in the hothouse*, 191.

<sup>35</sup> Pew Center on Global Climate Change, 'Agenda for Climate Action', <[www.pewclimate.org/global-warming-in-depth/all\\_reports/agenda\\_for\\_climate\\_action/index.cfm](http://www.pewclimate.org/global-warming-in-depth/all_reports/agenda_for_climate_action/index.cfm)>, Date of material February 2006.

<sup>36</sup> Pew Center on Global Climate Change, 'Agenda for Climate Action'.

<sup>37</sup> Lowe, *Living in the hothouse*, 157-161.

<sup>38</sup> Lowe, *Living in the hothouse*, 141-142.

**g Re-forest the country substantially, as young trees take carbon out of the atmosphere**

A massive replanting scheme would reduce CO<sub>2</sub> levels significantly as long as it continued, as well as encouraging biodiversity, reducing erosion. (Fully grown trees store CO<sub>2</sub> but don't take it out of the atmosphere.)

**h Intentionally reduce methane emissions**

There are three ways to do this: Stop deforestation (by wood-burning), which accounts for at least a third of biomass methane emissions. Reduce landfill emissions by reducing the quantity of garbage tipped, aiming at two-thirds the current volume. Reduce (say by a third) leakage from natural gas pipelines.<sup>39</sup>

**i Encourage medium and high density housing**

For example, governments can introduce incentives to plan and build in energy saving ways, leaving behind the 'quarter-acre block' as the norm.

**j Fund zero-emission living experiments**

For example, the Beddington Zero Emission Development (BedZED) is a carbon-neutral village built in the UK.<sup>40</sup>

**k Explore ways to capture and store carbon**

It is possible to prevent carbon from entering the atmosphere by capturing it in gas form as coal and wood is burned, converting it to a solid and storing it underground or under the sea. This is cost-effective already where there is a carbon-trading scheme operating.<sup>41</sup>

**l Commit to a zero population growth and a sustainable economy**

Most economics is based on continual growth, which we now know to be unsustainable. Most politicians believe we need a higher birth rate in order to grow the economy.

The global reality shouts the opposite. We need to talk about an economy that is in equilibrium and a population that becomes stable.<sup>42</sup>

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<sup>39</sup> Houghton, *Global warming*, 253.

<sup>40</sup> <[www.bioregional.com/programme\\_projects/eco hous\\_prog/bedzed/bedzed\\_hpg.htm](http://www.bioregional.com/programme_projects/eco hous_prog/bedzed/bedzed_hpg.htm)>

<sup>41</sup> Houghton, *Global warming*, 289.

<sup>42</sup> Lowe, *Living in the hothouse*, 204.

Population growth and pursuing a higher standard of living are the two biggest factors in the increased human activity leading to the greenhouse effect.

## 8 What can ordinary people do?

### a Lobby governments to take the actions listed above

Visit or write to your local politicians asking what they plan to do about global warming. Assess the environmental policies of the major parties. Write to newspapers. Politicians usually only respond when they sense that people want something strongly.

### b Join an environmental group in order to learn, be inspired and act together

For example, see the community groups being encouraged by the Climate Movement.<sup>43</sup>

### c Follow the environmental principles of 'reduce, reuse and recycle'

### d Use alternative energies such as solar power or pay for 'greenpower'

### e Build or convert houses to be energy efficient

Strategies include pointing in the right direction for winter and summer climate conditions, insulation, double-glazing, curtains, tree shade, verandahs, eaves, controlled airflows, slab-floor heating and cooling, modular heating, water tanks, skylights, energy-efficient appliances, energy-efficient light bulbs and so on.

Many local councils now have schemes which include an audit and incentives to join an energy-saving scheme.

### f Consciously reduce energy use in the home and office, using targets

Strategies include things such as heating and cooling to a lesser degree or only in a part of the house, turning off lights, using less 'standby power', having shorter showers, washing clothes in cold water, avoiding clothes dryers and using a push-mower.

### g Eat less meat

Meat — especially red meat — takes much more energy to produce than do vegetables. Meat takes ten times the area of land that

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<sup>43</sup> <[www.climatemovement.org.au](http://www.climatemovement.org.au)>, sponsored by the Nature Conservation Council of NSW and Environment Victoria.

vegetables take to produce enough to eat.<sup>44</sup> Grazing animals convert vegetable protein into animal protein inefficiently and consume large amounts of water. They usually need to be transported large distances to population centres. Meat needs more cooking than vegetables. And the more stock we need the more methane is produced.<sup>45</sup>

- h Cycle and walk where possible**
- i Use public transport instead of a car where possible**
- j Cut out unnecessary long-distance travel**
- k Conduct an energy audit on our home, church or office**

## **9 What can Christians and churches do?**

### **a Introduce care for creation into worship**

We can pray for creation. We can include environmental information in our prayer points. We can preach and teach on God's mission for reconciled relationships between humans and creation (among other relationships).

We can include a 'season of creation' in our church year.<sup>46</sup>

We can worship outdoors in a park or in the bush at times.

### **b Conduct an energy audit and reduce energy use**

As with a business, we can assess our use of lights and heating, waste disposal, recycling, transport patterns and so on.

We can discourage the use of disposable cups, plates and cutlery at church functions.

Financial savings are likely to add incentive to the process.<sup>47</sup>

### **c Encourage local membership and less use of cars**

We can pursue a more local vision of Christian community, with many other benefits. We can encourage walking and cycling. Some churches now take part in Ride to Work days in the form of Ride to

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<sup>44</sup> Toronto Vegetarian Association, 'Eating for the Earth', <[www.veg.ca/issues/enintro.html](http://www.veg.ca/issues/enintro.html)>

<sup>45</sup> Vegetarian/Vegan Society of Queensland, 'Think you can be a meat-eating environmentalist? Think again', <[www.vegsoc.org.au/](http://www.vegsoc.org.au/)>.

<sup>46</sup> See <[www.seasonofcreation.com](http://www.seasonofcreation.com)> for many resources.

<sup>47</sup> A guide to auditing your church is available from the Australian group Catholic Earth Care <[www.catholicearthcareoz.net](http://www.catholicearthcareoz.net)>.

Church days, complete with breakfast and celebrations, in co-operation with state cycling associations. We can install bike racks.

**d Take part in tree planting days**

Some churches demonstrate their citizenship and local community by occasionally joining with local tree-planting working bees (as well as Clean Up Australia Day). They can be tied in with worship on the theme.

**e Encourage practical exploration (in groups) of energy-saving practices**

Churches can hold groups on reducing energy use, recycling, transport options and other lifestyle decisions. One church has run classes in low-energy cooking.

**f Join other groups lobbying governments for action to counter global warming**

Climate change is not a merely Christian issue and Christians need to act in concert with other concerned people. While there is a place for Christian environmental groups which stir Christians into action, the action needs to be in coalition with others to be effective.

Denominations can agree to add their voice to the call for governments to take global warming seriously.

**g Spread information about Christian environmental statements and groups**

Some of these groups are listed in the resources section.

Some Christians will be influenced by knowing that there is an Evangelical Climate Initiative in the US where 85 prominent leaders, such as Rick Warren, signed a strong statement about the need for Christians to act on global warming.<sup>48</sup> Even Pat Robertson, until recently a critic of this group, was 'converted' in August 2006 after unusual heat waves in the US, saying that we need to act urgently.<sup>49</sup>

A large group of British Christian leaders and scientists also formed the John Ray Initiative, headed by Sir John Houghton, chair of Scientific Assessment on the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), himself an evangelical Christian.<sup>50</sup>

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<sup>48</sup> Evangelical Climate Initiative, <[www.christiansandclimate.org](http://www.christiansandclimate.org)>.

<sup>49</sup> 'Heat convinces Robertson of global warming', MSNBC, 3 August 2006, <[www.msnbc.msn.com/id/14171691/](http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/14171691/)>.

<sup>50</sup> The John Ray Initiative: Connecting Environment, Science and Christianity, <[www.jri.org.uk](http://www.jri.org.uk)>. This group and the Au Sable Institute (<[www.ausable.org](http://www.ausable.org)>) in the US were responsible for the Oxford

The web site on 'What would Jesus drive?', discussing transport issues from a Christian perspective, has gained a lot of attention in the US.<sup>51</sup>

## 10 Resources

Evangelical Climate Initiative, [www.christiansandclimate.org](http://www.christiansandclimate.org).

A group of prominent evangelical leaders in the US have come out strongly in favour of action to combat global warming.

Australian Greenhouse Office (Australian Department of Environment and Heritage), [www.greenhouse.gov.au](http://www.greenhouse.gov.au).

Although treading a fine line in not criticising the Federal government too much, the AGH web site offers a wealth of useful information.

Australian Conservation Foundation, [www.acfonline.org.au](http://www.acfonline.org.au).

Normally considered moderate, the ACF is calling for strong action on global warming.

The Pew Center on Global Climate Change, [www.pewclimate.org](http://www.pewclimate.org).

A well-funded research centre on global warming. A wealth of resources.

Green Facts: Facts on Health and the Environment, [www.greenfacts.org](http://www.greenfacts.org).

Clear and brief summaries of the scientific consensus on a range of issues.

Forum 2002 on Global Climate Change, [www.climateforum2002.org](http://www.climateforum2002.org), including the 'Oxford Declaration on Global Warming'.

A distinguished array of British Christian leaders and scientists gathered and issued this statement.

A Season of Creation, [www.seasonofcreation.com](http://www.seasonofcreation.com).

This web site provides many resources to encourage churches to add four weeks to the liturgical year in September as a season of creation. It's catching on fast. Started by Australian theologian Norman Habel.

Catholic Earthcare Australia, [www.catholicearthcareoz.net](http://www.catholicearthcareoz.net).

An initiative of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference.

What Would Jesus Drive?, [www.whatwouldjesusdrive.org](http://www.whatwouldjesusdrive.org).

This eye-catching project discusses transport from an environmentalist and Christian perspective.

Ross Langmead, 11-9-06

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Declaration by Christian leaders and scientists in 2002. <[www.climateforum2002.org](http://www.climateforum2002.org)>.

<sup>51</sup> <[www.whatwouldjesusdrive.org](http://www.whatwouldjesusdrive.org)>.