

Care of Creation – September 2019

We are living in a time of change and much confusion about what is the truth.

War between powerful nations and tribal leaders has been with us for ages, but we now have strong movements for peace and actual meetings between leaders of nations. What these leaders and the rest of us understand about the climate and how the planet and its climate works becomes important to all, but there is much confusion.

Destruction of forests, loss and ruining of soils and killing off wildlife have occurred everywhere. The nations where people have learned to keep the soil fertile and care for animals useful to them are the ones that have survived. Now the world's population is so great, many will not survive unless we do better. We have made mistakes by using fossil fuels, chemicals and plastics, which are now causing problems. We have much to learn about what to do.

In other blogs I have talked about groups active in our diocese, like A Rocha, ACAN, NZCIS, and New Creation New Zealand. I have also mentioned other churches and religions and those who do not see God as Creator and carer over all. Now I want to look at what I think is mistaken thinking:

1. It is wrong to think there is no God. The more we learn about living things and how they interact, the more we realise that a wonderful intellect is involved. Our Bibles tell us how Jesus taught us to use the holy books and how to look at the world around us.
2. It is wrong to think God does not care.
3. Jesus has invited us to care with him, as partners continuing to take up the cross.
4. We are being shown that the climate change of recent years is caused by human activities which lead to changes in the upper atmosphere.
5. Although changes in refrigeration removed one danger, use of fossil fuels and the release of gas from ruminants, some other creatures and from the earth itself continues to trap heat, causing global warming and climate change.
6. There is a lot of talk about trees, but the lesson from the Amazon region is not that the trees improved the soil, but that people discovered that capturing the carbon by part-burning waste wood to produce charcoal gave a product now called biochar which allowed tiny creatures to thrive and produce improved soil.

Great work is being done concerning ruminants, but I shall write about that another time.

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