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## Quotes and Resources

February 2021

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### Quotes:

#### **Ecological Wonder**

“The virtue of *ecological wonder* is the settled disposition to stand in rapt attention and enthralled amazement in the presence of the awe-inspiring natural world. This ecological virtue names the capability of grateful amazement at the world of wonders God has made, sustains, and is remaking. Formed by this virtue, we have the ability to see, appreciate, and be amazed by features of the natural world.” (Steven Bouma-Prediger, 44, *Earthkeeping and Character*.)

#### **The Earth is Sacred**

“Calling the earth “sacred” is another way of expressing humility in the face of forces we do not fully comprehend. When something is sacred, it demands that we proceed with caution. Even awe.” (Naomi Klein, *On Fire*, 67.)

#### **The Waters and Our Spiritual Journey**

“Rivers are not a barrier to be breached or a boundary to be overcome; rather, they are the living waters. They nourish us; they are our fluid way to health and happiness. ... Our lives are like a watershed, where everything flows toward the oceans; and the watershed is the metaphorical setting for the journey.

Rivers, however, are more than metaphors. Although watersheds provide a powerful language of spiritual insight, they are also real endangered places that demand our ethical attention. The world's waterways call us to practice social justice--to restore them, to make sure rich and poor alike have access, and to manage water in drought-stricken lands with creativity and foresight.” (Diana Butler Bass, *Grounded*, 91.)

#### **Caring for our Oceans**

“Recent studies show that warming oceans could be altering the El Niño cycle, making strong episodes more frequent. And all this warm water is really doing a number on the oceans, the basis of the planetary food chain. The loss of coral reefs means we could already be entering an era of mass extinction with entire ecosystems being snuffed out almost overnight. And if we lose the reefs, we lose one of the anchors of life on earth.” (Eric Holthaus, *The Future Earth*, 27.)

## Water and Spirituality

“Along with identifying our core convictions, awareness of human spirituality opens us up to a deeper appreciation for the rich array of spiritual meanings other people and cultures have given to the natural world. This is a valuable resource for our own reflection on the meaning of the natural world and our place in it.

This is especially true of water, a feature of the natural world that has been a centerpiece of spiritual symbolism and religious ritual in human communities for thousands of years. With remarkable regularity across human cultures, water has been used to communicate the sacred value of life; the spiritual dimension of purification, protection, and healing; and the profound meaning of suffering and redemption in human life.”

(<https://healingearth.ijep.net/water/water-and-spirituality>)

## Water Scarcity

“Greater scarcity of water will lead to an increase in the cost of food and the various products which depend on its use.” Pope Francis says. “Some studies warn that an acute water shortage may occur within a few decades unless urgent action is taken. The environmental repercussions could affect billions of people and species; it is also conceivable that the control of water by large multinational businesses may become a major source of conflict in this century.” (*Laudato Si'* of The Holy Father Francis: On Care For Our Common Home, 31.)

## Verses from Text:

**Genesis 1:1-9 (NRSV) - 1** In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, **2** the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the *waters*. **3** Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light. **4** And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. **5** God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

**6** And God said, “Let there be a dome in the midst of the *waters*, and let it separate the *waters* from the *waters*.” **7** So God made the dome and separated the *waters* that were under the dome from the *waters* that were above the dome. And it was so. **8** God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

**9** And God said, “Let the *waters* under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.” And it was so.

## Actions:

Become a part of **Climate Reality Leadership Corps** - From their website

“Join the Climate Reality Leadership Corps community of global changemakers leading the fight for just climate solutions across the planet. Start by joining former US Vice President Al Gore and renowned experts from across sectors at a virtual Climate Reality Leadership Corps training in 2021. You’ll learn what’s happening to our climate and how we can solve it. You’ll gain the skills to lead the fight for a just and sustainable future. And you’ll join a global network of over 31,000 world-changing activists making a difference every day. This

is our moment. Join us for a virtual Climate Reality Leadership Corps training in 2021 and together we'll seize this opportunity and build the world we want."

### **Upcoming Virtual US Training from April 22- May 2 -**

<https://www.climaterealityproject.org/apply/virtual-us-training>

If you have questions you can contact Janel at [jar1513@gmail.com](mailto:jar1513@gmail.com)

**Just Faith** provides education on the intersection of faith and climate. You can participate in their **Sacred Land: Food and Farming Module** and they will soon be offering **Sacred Air: Climate and Energy Module**. You can find more information here:

<https://justfaith.org/sacred-land-food-and-farming/>

## **Hard Truths:**

"One of the most interesting findings in studies on climate perceptions is the clear connection between a refusal to accept the science of climate change and social and economical privilege. Overwhelmingly, climate deniers are not only conservative but also white and male, a group with higher-than-average incomes. And they are more likely than other adults to be highly confident in their views, no matter how demonstrably false."

Naomi Kline, *On Fire*, 94-95

## **Weblinks:**

- **C02 Tracker** - co2.earth shows you the daily, monthly, and annual measurements of CO2 in the atmosphere. <https://www.co2.earth/daily-co2>
- The **Healing Earth** online Textbook through The University of Loyola - <https://healingearth.ijep.net/>
- **Atmospheric Carbon Dioxide** - "The complex global carbon cycle process involves carbon absorption and release by the atmosphere, oceans, soils, and organic matter, and also emissions from anthropogenic fossil fuel combustion and land-use changes." [https://yaleclimateconnections.org/2010/12/common-climate-misconceptions-atmospheric-carbon-dioxide/?gclid=Cj0KCQiapY6BBhCsARIsAOI\\_GjaZd4RF-H45vIrlldPWxyq8H2s648uq2dbSvVnHviOfrK0-n1\\_EKt3laAktzEALw\\_wcB](https://yaleclimateconnections.org/2010/12/common-climate-misconceptions-atmospheric-carbon-dioxide/?gclid=Cj0KCQiapY6BBhCsARIsAOI_GjaZd4RF-H45vIrlldPWxyq8H2s648uq2dbSvVnHviOfrK0-n1_EKt3laAktzEALw_wcB)
- **A Year of CO2 and CO** (NASA Goddard Video) - An ultra-high-resolution NASA computer model has given scientists a stunning new look at how carbon dioxide in the atmosphere travels around the globe. Plumes of carbon dioxide in the simulation swirl and shift as winds disperse the greenhouse gas away from its sources. The simulation also illustrates differences in carbon dioxide levels in the northern and southern hemispheres and distinct swings in global carbon dioxide concentrations as the growth cycle of plants and trees changes with the seasons. The carbon dioxide visualization was produced by a computer model called GEOS-5, created by scientists at NASA Goddard Space Flight Center's Global Modeling and Assimilation Office. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xISgmFa0r04&ab\\_channel=NASAGoddard](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xISgmFa0r04&ab_channel=NASAGoddard)

## **Climate Knowledge Key:**

**Beginner** - Basic concepts, Intro level

**Some Knowledge** - Knows about climate change, some disturbing info

**Moderate** - Well-read, understands the ideas and concepts, okay with difficult information

**Very Familiar** - Involved, exposed to negative data, aware of the coming disaster