

# Climate Change and the Bible

By Dave DeWitt

## Introduction

First of all, we need to understand that the controversy surrounding this issue is not about global warming, climate change or the rising levels of the oceans. This is all about humans causing global warming by adding excessive CO<sub>2</sub> to the atmosphere. It's often called "climate change" so that other weather conditions, such as floods, cold snaps, hurricanes, and tornadoes can be claimed as evidence. But the only real issue is warming. The foundational belief is that man, not God, is in charge of the present and future climate of the earth. Hence, the panic.

My outline of this material is in two parts:

**First**, I intend to present and evaluate the climate-change arguments. I claim no expertise in this area, so for this, I shall quote and summarize a sample of what is being reported in the literature.

**Second**, I shall look at what the Bible says and determine a biblical-climate scenario.

## The Information in the Literature about Global Warming

### Here Is What We Know about Our Climate

Ultraviolet (UV) radiation from the sun penetrates our earth's atmosphere. Then the surface of the earth turns that into heat in the form of infrared radiation (IR). Gases in our atmosphere allow some of that heat to pass through out into space, but those gases also absorb and re-radiate much of that infrared heat back to the earth. This is called the Greenhouse Effect. The more IR that is reflected back, the warmer the planet.

### How Much of Our Atmosphere Is Carbon Dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>)?

Just for the fun of it, I have been asking people with whom I come in contact, "From 0 to 100%, how much of our atmosphere do you think is carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>)?" Most of the answers I got range from 20% to 50%. Here are the real percentages:

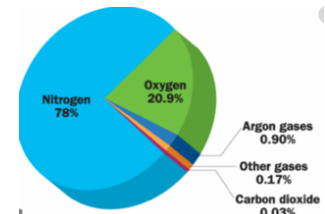
Nitrogen = 78%

Oxygen = 21%

Others = 1% Of the 1%, Argon = 0.93%. + Carbon dioxide =

.039% + .031 other gases. (Carbon dioxide estimates today are usually listed as .04%)

[[https://www.sciencedaily.com/terms/greenhouse\\_gas.htm](https://www.sciencedaily.com/terms/greenhouse_gas.htm)]



### Are Humans Impacting the Atmosphere by Adding Carbon Dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>)?

Skepticalscience.com is a global-warming activist group about "Getting skeptical about global warming skepticism." They claimed:

Although our output of 29 gigatons of CO<sub>2</sub> is tiny compared to the 750 gigatons moving through the carbon cycle each year, it adds up because the land and ocean cannot absorb all of the extra CO<sub>2</sub>. About 40% of this additional CO<sub>2</sub> is absorbed. [<https://skepticalscience.com/human-co2-smaller-than-natural-emissions.htm>]

Let's look their statistics. They say there are 750 gigatons (GT) of CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere and humans release 29 gigatons of it into the atmosphere. In that case humans cause  $29/750 = 3.86\%$  of the CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere. But remember CO<sub>2</sub> is .039% of the atmosphere. Therefore, according to their website, human-created CO<sub>2</sub> is  $3.86\% \times .039\% = 0.0015054\%$  of the atmosphere. So, yes, according to their statistics, humans are impacting 0.0015% of the atmosphere. But if 40% is absorbed, that means 60% is not absorbed. So, human impact is 60% of .0015% = .0009% of the atmosphere (that's 9/10,000 of a

percent). It's like asking, "Did the gifts I bought in December for Christmas impact the American economy?" Yeah...but...

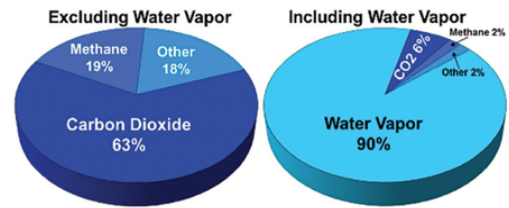
Question: Could a little CO<sub>2</sub> cause a big problem, as in a little arsenic in your coffee can kill you?"

Answer: that's only true if the little amount is indeed toxic by itself. And CO<sub>2</sub> is not toxic.

By the way, Over the last 100 years we have gone from 300 to 400 ppm CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere. But, meteorologist Craig James Woods told me that CO<sub>2</sub> exceeds 6,000 ppm in submarines, and over 10,000 ppm in the space station and it is not unhealthy, nor does it cause excessive warming in either place. Evolutionary geologists Gregory Wrightstone says there was up to 8,000 ppm CO<sub>2</sub> in the earth's atmosphere in the earth's distant past.

### Is Carbon Dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) the Major Atmospheric Factor in the Warming of the Earth?

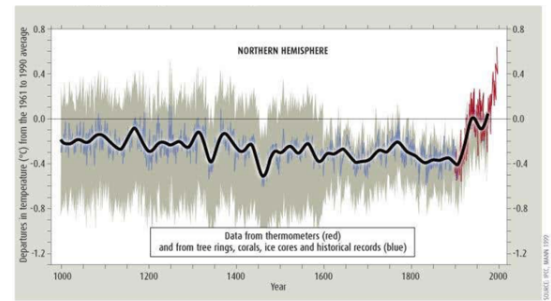
Everybody, on both sides of the climate debate, understands water vapor is responsible for approximately 90% of atmospheric heating. This is easily observable from the surface of the earth. For example, if you are in the American desert southwest on a warm day, when the sun goes down, it gets cool. But if you are in southern Alabama on a warm day, when the sun goes down, it stays warm. That's because the desert has less water vapor in the air than southern Alabama.



[Fray, Calvin. Climate Change Reality Check: Basic Facts that Quickly Prove the Climate Change Crusade is Wrong and Dangerous (p. 34). Kindle Edition]

### What about "The Hockey-Stick Graph"?

The hockey-stick graph was first published in a 1998 paper by Michael Mann at Pennsylvania State University. The graph was featured in the 2001 report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and has been used ever since to promote climate-change activism.

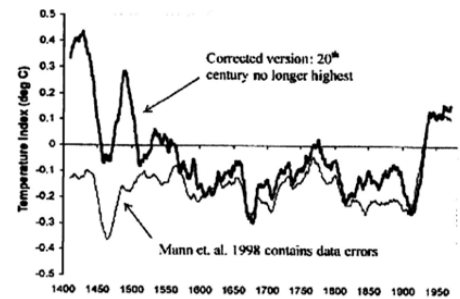


But there is a big debate about the accuracy of Michael Mann's hockey stick. Since 2001, there have been repeated claims that the reconstruction is at best seriously flawed and at worst a fraud. John MacLaughlin, in "The American Thinker" (September 27, 2009) offered the following comment:

In 2003, Professor McKittrick teamed with a Canadian engineer, Steve McIntyre, in attempting to replicate the [hockey stick] chart and finally debunked it as statistical nonsense. [John MacLaughlin, September 27, 2009, [https://www.americanthinker.com/articles/2009/09/global\\_warming\\_science.html#ixzz68Hu3nOmR](https://www.americanthinker.com/articles/2009/09/global_warming_science.html#ixzz68Hu3nOmR)]

Also, in 2005, McIntyre and McKittrick published this graph and the following statement:

Their new work yielded a Northern Hemisphere temperature index in which the late 20th century showed nothing exceptional compared to preceding centuries, displaying neither unusually high mean values nor variability. [([https://www.americanthinker.com/articles/2009/09/global\\_warming\\_science.html](https://www.americanthinker.com/articles/2009/09/global_warming_science.html))]



Rod Martin [author of the 2016 book "Thermophobia"] observed,

If evolution is correct and the earth is 4.6 billion years old, then we have no reliable temperature records for most of earth's history. The last 100 years represents only 0.0000002% of earth's

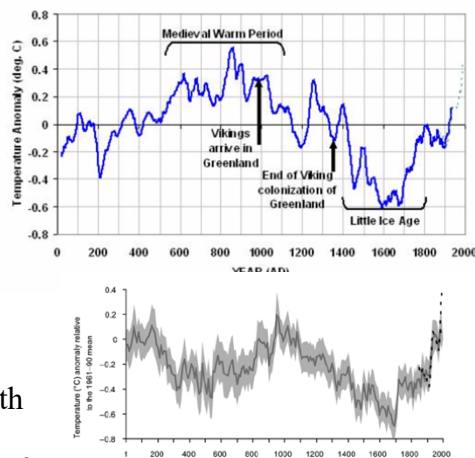
history. [<https://answersingenesis.org/environmental-science/climate-change/a-proposed-bible-science-perspective-on-global-warming/>]

## Global Temperature Changes in the Distant Past Includes Severe Heating and Cooling that Man Clearly had Nothing to Do With

In 2008, updated from 2007, Canadian forestry ecologist Dr. Craig Loehle published a graph indicating climate changes over the last 2000 years. [Loehle, C. and Hu McCulloch. 2008. Correction to: A 2000 Year Global Temperature Reconstruction based on Non-Treering Proxy Data. *Energy & Environment* 19:93-100]

When it hit the blogosphere, climate-change activists, such as Michael Mann, criticized his work. But a separate reconstruction of these temperatures in 2010 confirmed Loehle's basic graph with only a few variations. [Ljungqvist, F.C. 2010. A new reconstruction of temperature variability in the extra-tropical northern hemisphere during the last two millenia. *Geografiska Annaler* 92A(3):339-351].

The top graph is Craig Loehle's graph published in the year 2008. The bottom graph is the one published by Ljungqvist (referenced above) in 2010. Although there are some minor variations, the basic climate changes are the same. At any rate, both graphs show similar heating and cooling periods which humans clearly had nothing to do with. Most obvious are the colonization of Greenland in the Middle Ages, between the 800s and 1200s, which is why it is called "Greenland," and the "Little Ice Age" of the 1600s and 1700s, which killed many in both Europe and North America because their summers were not warm enough to grow sufficient crops.



## Global Increased CO<sub>2</sub> Is Beneficial for Plants

In a 2015 article, three forest ecologists, Craig Loehle, Craig Idso, and T. Bently Wigley, published the following report:

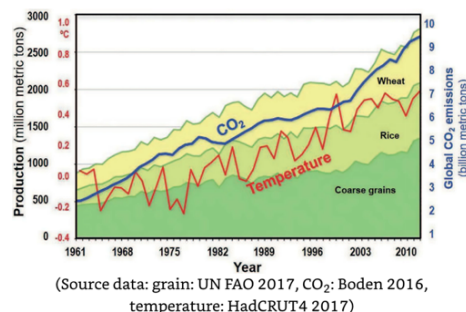
...elevated CO<sub>2</sub> increases water use efficiency and protects plants from drought... There is strong evidence from the United States and globally that forest growth has been increasing over recent decades to the past 100+ years. [<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2016/01/18/study-increased-atmospheric-carbon-dioxide-has-increased-u-s-forest-health-in-recent-decades/>]

Rod Martin, [referenced above] agreed. He wrote,

Some growers intentionally increase CO<sub>2</sub> up to ten times its normal concentration to encourage plant growth in greenhouses...Plants need CO<sub>2</sub> to exist. If CO<sub>2</sub> levels drop to about 220 ppm, plants grow very slowly, and if the concentration falls to 150 ppm, growth stops entirely. There is far greater danger in lowering the CO<sub>2</sub> level, than in increasing the level. Agricultural schools and farmers around the world have noted increased crop yields and enhanced forest growth as CO<sub>2</sub> has increased in the atmosphere.

Both NOAA and NASA satellites confirm that the earth has become considerably greener, with more vegetation, since the 1980s.

Wrightstone confirmed this analysis with this graph. Although technology and capitalism are also a factor, there is a positive relationship between CO<sub>2</sub> and crop production. [Wrightstone, Gregory. *INCONVENIENT FACTS: The science that Al Gore doesn't want you to know*. Mill City Press. Kindle Edition.]



## What Are the Sources for Our Global Temperature Changes?

What we have seen thus far is that the earth has gone through many cold and warm periods over the last 2000 years. Although carbon dioxide has a small influence on that, it is only .039% of the atmosphere and man has virtually nothing (maybe .0009%) to do with it. Water vapor is the main (90%) influence on global temperature. That prompts the question, “What causes the rise in temperature that the water vapor controls?” Ultimately, it’s impossible to know exactly what caused periods of warming or cooling at some particular time in the earth’s history. But here are three likely contributors to global warming and cooling.

1. Volcanoes Add Greenhouse Gases and Are Increasing in Frequency
2. The Activity on the Surface of the Sun Impacts the Earth’s Climate
3. The Earth’s Magnetic Field Impacts the Earth’s Climate

## Melting of the Arctic Ice Cap Does Not Increase Sea Level

Yes, the evidence shows that the oceans have been rising slightly for many years. But the reason is not melting polar icebergs or any floating ice, such as at the north pole. A simple experiment proves that. Just fill a glass with water and floating ice cubes, then stick it in your microwave until the ice melts. When the ice melts, the water will displace the same space as the ice did.



## Many Arguments for Human-Caused Global Warming Are Presented Deceptively

Here is an example of that deception from yaleclimateconnections.org. I will present their arguments in typewriter font and my comments in **casual** font. Yale says,

Water vapor is one of the most important elements of the climate system. A greenhouse gas, like carbon dioxide, it represents around 80 percent of total greenhouse gas mass in the atmosphere and 90 percent of greenhouse gas volume.

**But carbon dioxide has nothing to do with it, so why is it mentioned? Throwing it in the sentence makes it sound like it is 80% of the greenhouse gases. The reality is carbon dioxide is .039% of the greenhouse gases.**

Yale Climate Connections goes on to say,

... water vapor is indeed responsible for a major portion of Earth’s warming over the past century and for projected future warming. However, water vapor is not the cause of this warming... In this case, anthropogenic [human-caused] emissions of CO<sub>2</sub>, methane, and other gases are warming the Earth.

[<https://www.yaleclimateconnections.org/2008/02/common-climate-misconceptions-the-water-vapor-feedback-2/>]

**Yeah, “water vapor is indeed responsible for a major portion [90%] of the Earth’s warming.” But what caused the earth to warm the water vapor is the subject of the debate. Carbon may be a factor. But scholarly articles have also suggested the surface of the sun, the magnetic field and volcanoes all contribute to warming. To simply state “anthropogenic [human-caused] emissions of CO<sub>2</sub>, methane, and other gases are warming the Earth” is to assume their conclusion. That is the kind of claim evolutionists and progressives usually make. They use their own assumptions as “evidence” for their conclusions. It’s like saying, “We know evolution is true because we keep saying it is.” Or, “This group is guilty of ‘hate speech’ because we call what they say, ‘hate speech.’” In the same way, they “know humans cause global warming because they keep saying so.”**

Hlissa Ocko, writing for the “Environmental Defense Fund, gave one of their common “proofs.”

Consensus among scientists who consider all previous lines of evidence and make their own conclusions (polling beginning in 1990s).

[[www.edf.org/climate/9-ways-we-know-humans-triggered-climate-change](http://www.edf.org/climate/9-ways-we-know-humans-triggered-climate-change)]

**But consensus data comes from liberal universities and “science” journals that will only publish climate-activists’ articles. Also, Science is not based on “consensus among scientists.” The “consensus among scientists” for hundreds of years believed the world was**

**flat, gold could come from lead, we should use “blood-letting” to heal people, life spontaneously generated from non-living matter, and we evolved from monkeys.**

On January 1, 2020, Maxim Lott, writing for Fox News, published the “Top 5 Most Outrageous 2020 Doomsday Predictions that Didn’t Pan Out”:

1. The U.S. may warm 6 degrees F from 1990 to 2020.
2. Oil will effectively run out by 2020.
3. By 2020, no glaciers will be left on Mt. Kilimanjaro.
4. A billion people will starve due to missing the tech revolution.
5. By 2020, “millions will die” from climate change.

[<https://www.foxnews.com/us/top-5-most-outrageous-2020-doomsday-predictions>]

## **The Bible and Climate Change**

The Bible is, among other things, a history book. And it catalogues climate determiners and climate change. It allows us to determine the history, current condition, and future of our climate. The Bible also allows us to evaluate the data available through science. Factual information is always a friend of the Bible.

### **Creation, Genesis Chapter One**

**Genesis 1:1**, *In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.*

**Genesis 1:7-11**, [On the second day] *God made the expanse and separated the waters which were below the expanse from the waters which were above the expanse and it was so (verse 7).*

...*Then [on the third day] God said, “Let the waters below the heavens be gathered into one place and let the dry land appear;” and it was so (verse 9).*

...*Then [still on the third day] God said, “Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees on the earth bearing fruit after their kind with seed in them;” and it was so (verse 11).*

**Genesis 1: 20-25**, *Then [on the fifth day] God said, “Let the waters teem with swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth in the open expanse of the heavens. God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarmed after their kind, and every winged bird after its kind;” and God saw that it was good (verse 21).*

...[on the sixth day] *God made the beasts of the earth after their kind, and the cattle after their kind, and everything that creeps on the ground after its kind; and God saw that it was good (verse 25).*

**Genesis 1:29-30**, ... *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.*

If words mean anything, the Bible teaches:

1. God created the heavens and the earth from nothing. It did not evolve, and God did not use evolution to do it.
2. God created the earth and separated light from darkness on the first day.
3. God created the atmosphere (*the expanse*), and suspended a water, or a water vapor, canopy above the earth on the second day.
4. God gathered the water into one place [apparently one ocean], let the dry land appear [apparently one continent], and created plants on the third day.
5. After creating the star formations on the fourth day, God created animals the fifth and sixth days. Therefore, the atmosphere was created with the perfect amount of oxygen (O<sub>2</sub>) carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), water vapor (H<sub>2</sub>O) and other greenhouse gases, to sustain both plant and animal life.
6. God created plants, which were available for human and animal consumption since both man and animals were, at the time of creation, all vegetarian herbivores.



7. God *separated the waters* (a water or clear-water vapor canopy) above the atmosphere which would create a warm greenhouse effect, a tropic-type climate over the whole earth.

All the animals and humans were to eat plants (Genesis 1:29), but some animals, including the woolly mammoths and dinosaurs like the behemoth and the leviathan (Psalm 104:26; Job 40:15; 41:1)], could eat a tremendous amount of plants, and plants require CO<sub>2</sub>. So, it is likely that this early atmosphere would include a much higher percent of CO<sub>2</sub> (probably closer to the 8,000 ppm Wrightstone estimated, compared to the 400 ppm we have today).

[Wrightstone, Gregory. INCONVENIENT FACTS, Mill City Press, referenced above]

The global tropical climate and the immense amount of plant life are confirmed by woolly mammoths discovered frozen in the permafrost of Siberia who “sustained themselves on plant food” (Wikipedia). “Scientific American” reported, on November 17, 2014, about a large female mammoth that was discovered, frozen in Siberia, with warm climate vegetation in her intestines.

[Concerning] “The mammoth specimen, which was discovered in 2013 in a remote part of Siberia... Feces and bacteria in the intestines revealed the ancient matriarch ate grassland plants such as buttercups and dandelions.” [https://www.scientificamerican.com/author/tia-ghose/]

Putting this information together with the Genesis account, we can be reasonably certain that after the six days of creation the whole earth sustained a relatively warm atmosphere with:

- Higher amounts of CO<sub>2</sub> than we have today, enough to sustain immense plant growth over the whole earth and the *swarms of living creatures* in the sea which require CO<sub>2</sub>.
- The right amount of O<sub>2</sub> to sustain the created animals and humans.
- A sufficient H<sub>2</sub>O water vapor (which is always clear/invisible and supplies 90% of atmospheric heating) needed to sustain a warm temperature all around the surface of the earth, including all the seas.

### **The Global Flood, Genesis 7-9**

**Genesis 7:11-12**, *In the six hundredth year of Noah’s life, in the second month, on the seventeenth day of the month, on the same day all the fountains of the great deep burst open, and the floodgates of the sky were opened. The rain fell upon the earth for forty days and forty nights.*

**Genesis 7:24**, *The water prevailed upon the earth one hundred and fifty days.*

**Genesis 8:22**, *While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night, shall not cease.*

Answers in Genesis gives us a date for the flood at 2348 B.C. or 1,656 years after creation. [https://answersingenesis.org/bible-timeline/timeline-for-the-flood/]



### **The Bible and the Ice Age**

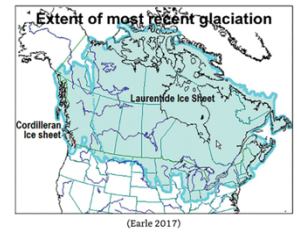
Taking the Bible at face value, we understand there was one ice age that slowly receded. The “Science Faculty” of Masters University published this explanation in 2017:

There is biblical and scientific evidence that suggests there was an ice age in the recent past and the earth has been warming ever since. [Climate Change | The Master's University, September 11, 2017 (https://www.masters.edu/news/climatechange.html)]

During the global flood, the water that covered the earth came from two places. The water canopy suspended in the atmosphere turned to rain, for 40 days. But there was also a geological catastrophic event. This may be the time the earth’s surface split up into its present formation (although some of that may have happened on the third day of creation – Genesis 1:9). At any rate, great valleys were opened up. David said: *The mountains rose; the valleys sank down to the place which You established for them* (Psalm 104:8).



The result was that *all the fountains of the great deep burst open*. During this time *the water prevailed upon the earth one hundred and fifty days*. Then *the water receded steadily from the earth, and at the end of one hundred and fifty days the water decreased* as it drained off the earth into the big holes that became the oceans, with some being trapped in smaller holes that became inland lakes. Also notice, at this time Noah's family and the animals had sufficient O<sub>2</sub> with no plant life producing it, proving that God's creation, not plant photosynthesis, is what produces sufficient O<sub>2</sub>.



During the year Noah was on the ark, the draining water carved out our land formations and major rivers. But now there was something different. Climates. For the first time in history, there would be *cold and heat, and summer and winter*.

### **"Lake Effect" Snow Caused the Glaciers**

During the time between creation and the flood, there was no rain, *but a mist used to rise from the earth and water the whole surface of the ground* (Genesis 2:6). We know that 90% of the heat in the earth's atmosphere is governed by water vapor. Before the flood of Genesis 7–9, water vapor caused a relatively mild warm climate, sufficient to make the whole earth a plant-growing greenhouse. Both the land and the oceans would be warm. But after the flood, the earth suddenly had very cold temperatures at its poles and heat at its equator. At the poles, there would be what we often call "lake effect" snow. This happens when the air is colder than the water. Cold arctic air over warm water would create snow.

I live in western Michigan, three miles from Lake Michigan. Every fall and early winter we have more snow than where my office is in Grand Rapids, about 40 miles inland. When the cold air from Canada sweeps across the Great Lakes, it leaves a blanket of snow on the eastern (leeward) sides of those lakes. At the North and South Pole of the earth, after the flood, there was a condition of warm oceans and cold air. The oceans had been warm for over 1600 years, since creation, then heated even more by hot water coming up (like geysers) when *the fountains of the great deep burst open*. When the new very cold air, sat over the very warm ocean, the water vapor in the atmosphere turned to snow.

Most likely, it snowed for several hundred years after the flood (500 years according to meteorologist Michael Oard, quoted below) in the glacier belt. That belt, in the Northern Hemisphere, extended south as far as the northern rim of United States, Germany, and Poland. The glacier belt dipped lower around the American Great Lakes, because there were more large bodies of warm water to cause the snowfall. After several hundred years of snow packing together to form glacier ice, the oceans and other large bodies of water began to cool. When their temperature lowered to that of the air, the "lake effect" began to reverse.

### **"Reverse Lake Effect" Melted Glaciers and Caused the Oceans to Rise**

Where I live in Michigan, we not only have "lake effect" snow in the fall and early winter, we also have "reverse lake effect" snow in the spring. As Lake Michigan cools over the winter (freezing near the shoreline) and then the spring warmer air comes over the icy lake, we have reverse lake effect. When an early spring storm brings snow, it often snows harder inland than by us on the shoreline, because warmer air over a cold lake keeps the water vapor from crystalizing into snow, and the ice on the Lake Michigan shoreline begins to melt.

After the flood, God told Noah there would not just be *cold and heat* but also *summer and winter*. So, the same "reverse lake effect" would happen over the Northern Hemisphere. As the temperature of the oceans and large bodies of inland water cooled to match the cold air temperature, the snow diminished, and the glaciers began to melt. This melting caused the oceans to rise. Rod Martin, [author of the 2016 book "Thermophobia"] writing for "Answers Research Journal," May 26, 2010, made the following observations:

... sunken Mediterranean cities also provide historical evidence for rising sea levels. For example, ancient Alexandria disappeared from history about 1,600 years ago. It was subsequently discovered in 1999 by Franck Goddio directly offshore from present Alexandria in about 15 ft (4.6 m) of water. The fortified island of ancient Tyre was destroyed by Alexander the Great in 322 B.C. The ruins of ancient Tyre now lie offshore in about 20 ft (6.1 m) of water. Other Mediterranean cities could also be cited. From this evidence, it appears that over the last 2,000 years the Mediterranean Sea has risen about 1 ft (0.3 m) per 100 years. This average sea level rise is greater than estimates of the rise over the last 100 years (4–10 inches [10–25 cm]). Apparently, sea-level rise is diminishing with time. The level of the Mediterranean Sea rose because melting glaciers added water to the oceans... Contrary to what global warming advocates are saying, the glaciers melted because the seas cooled, not because they warmed. [May 26, 2010 (<https://answersingenesis.org/environmental-science/climate-change/a-proposed-bible-science-perspective-on-global-warming/>)]

The glaciers were formed by constant snowfall after the flood and then began to melt, with irregular advances and recessions during colder and warmer summers and winters, up to this day. As the ice melted over the land, the oceans began to rise. This is still going on, and will continue when the global temperature rises, as it did during the colonization of Greenland in the Middle Ages. Ice will stop melting, and oceans levels will stop raising, during colder times, as it did during the “little ice age” of the 1600s and 1700s. Since our temperature is rising slightly today, so are our oceans.

How long did the glacial ice age last? Meteorologist Michael J. Oard gave the following:

I used minimums and maximums for the variables in the equations in order to bracket the time. The best estimate is about 500 years after the Flood to reach glacial maximum with an average ice and snow depth of about 2,300 feet (700 m) in the Northern Hemisphere and 4,000 feet (1,220 m) on Antarctica... the total length of time for a post-Flood Ice Age is about 700 years. [Emphasis mine, November 22, 2007, (<https://answersingenesis.org/environmental-science/ice-age/where-does-the-ice-age-fit/>)]

### **The Bible Confirms the Gradual Melting of the Glaciers**

If we round off the dates to the nearest 100 years, the water of Noah’s flood receded to where he could live on the land in about 2400 B.C. If Oard’s calculations are correct, the glaciers were in the process of receding until 1700 B.C.

If the ice age lasted until 1700 B.C., this includes the time of Abraham (~2000 B.C.) up to 200 years before Moses (~1500 B.C.), we would expect a cooler wetter climate in Israel at the time of Job, Abraham, and Lot. We would also expect the gradual glacier melting to create a cooler and wetter climate in Israel, favorable to extensive vegetation and wild animals, during the time of Joshua up through the time of the kings. So, is there any evidence for that in the Bible? It seems that there is. When Lot separated from Abraham we read,

*Lot lifted up his eyes and saw all the valley of the Jordan, that it was **well watered everywhere** — this was before the LORD destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah — like the garden of the LORD, like the land of Egypt as you go to Zoar (Genesis 13:10).*

Today that same area is a dry sandy desert-like terrain with a small area of grassy foliage only bordering the marshy rim of the Jordan river. But (~2000 B.C.) Lot saw a *well-watered* area compared to *the garden of the LORD* (maybe meaning the Garden of Eden) and likened to *Zoar*, which was apparently a well-known oasis of lush vegetation near Egypt. Not only does the Jordan River Valley not look like that today, neither does the land as you go to Egypt (like the Gaza Strip) look like that today.

Job lived at approximately, or a little after, the time of Abraham (Genesis 22:20-21; Job 1:1), in what is now northern Saudi Arabia. But some of God’s questions to Job seem to presume Job being familiar with



a cooler wetter climate rather than the dry desert-like area we see there today. It sounds like Job was familiar with *snow, hail, frost, and thick ice, hard like stone.*

**Job 38:22**, *Have you entered the storehouses of the **snow**, or have you seen the storehouses of the hail...?*

**Job 38:29-30**, *From whose womb has come the **ice**? And the **frost** of heaven, who has given it birth? **Water becomes hard like stone**, and the surface of the deep is imprisoned.*

Even at the time of Moses, Israel apparently had a climate much cooler than today, since 20 times it is called a land **flowing with milk and honey**.

**Numbers 13:23**, *Then they came to the valley of Eshcol and from there cut down a branch with a single cluster of **grapes**; and they carried it on a pole between two men, with some of the **pomegranates and the figs**.*

It sounds like, at the time when Joshua entered, the land was full of wild beasts. The word for *lion* or *lions* occurs 132 times in the Old Testament. Lions could not survive the hot dry climate of southern Israel today. But when God said He would clear out the Canaanite nations in Israel, we read,

**Deuteronomy 7:22**, *The LORD your God will clear away these nations before you little by little; you will not be able to put an end to them quickly, for the **wild beasts would grow too numerous** for you.*

**2 Samuel 23:20**, *Then Benaiah the son of Jehoiada ... went down and killed a **lion** in the middle of a pit on a **snowy day**.*

**1 Samuel 17:37**, *And David said, "The LORD who delivered me from the paw of the **lion** and from the paw of the **bear**, He will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine."*

It seems that the land of Israel was covered in forests. The word for *forest* occurs 57 times in the Old Testament. From Joshua to David they had to deal with thick forests. Ezekiel was told God would destroy the forest land of the Negev, so there must have been some forest land to destroy. Today the Negev is basically a desert.

**Joshua 17:18**, *but the hill country shall be yours. For though it is a **forest**, you shall clear it,*

**2 Samuel 18:8**, *For the battle [where Absalom's rebellion was defeated] there was spread over the whole countryside, and the **forest** devoured more people that day than the sword devoured.*

**Ezekiel 20:46-47**, *... prophesy against the **forest land of the Negev**, and say to the **forest of the Negev**, 'Hear the word of the LORD: thus says the Lord GOD, "Behold, I am about to kindle a fire in you, and it will consume every **green tree**."*

## **God Is Sovereign over the Weather and Man Does Not Control the Weather**

After the flood, God told Noah that the seasons He set up **would not cease** (Genesis 8:22). Peter said, *But by His word the present heavens and earth are being **reserved** for fire, **kept** for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men* (2 Peter 3:7).

The Bible establishes the fact that God is sovereign over the weather. Specifically mentioned are God's sovereignty over: the lightning (Job 28:26; 37:3), the rain (Job 28:26; 37:6; Psalm 147:8), the wind and the snow (Job 37:6; 38:22; Psalm 147:16) and the hail (Job 38:22; Psalm 147:17; Haggai 2:17). Even *the wind and the sea obey Him* (Mark 4:41; Job 38:8-11; Psalm 104:9; Jeremiah 5:22).

## **Conclusion**

Carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) is a very small part (.039%) of the atmosphere. Whatever effect it has on warming, human participation in that is negligible (maybe .0009%). CO<sub>2</sub> is not a pollutant. If anything, we need more CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere, not less. Whether you use an evolutionary or a biblical timetable, current temperature measurements are a tiny fraction of the history of the earth's climate. And all available evidence indicates that climate change has occurred, with many heating and cooling periods over the centuries, where humans clearly had nothing to do with it.

God created the earth with an atmosphere containing perfectly balanced greenhouse gases. After 1600 years of human sin, God covered the earth with a flood. Aquatic life was not affected. But of the oxygen-breathing, land-based life, only Noah, his family, and a representative of animals, survived.

After the flood, cold air over warm oceans at the poles caused snow to fall for several hundred years. This formed glaciers and conditions favorable for the migration which occurred about a hundred years later, after the tower of Babel, when *the LORD scattered them abroad over the face of the whole earth* (Genesis 11:9). As the glaciers over land melted, the oceans began to rise, isolating the migrating populations. This period also caused a wetter cooler climate in Old Testament Israel, allowing more forests, vegetables, fruits, and wild animals than we see today. Changing climates, melting glaciers, rising oceans, and expanding deserts can be expected to continue.

Climate conditions today are nearly all a product of creation and the catastrophic changes God gave the earth and its atmosphere at the time of the flood. Man had, and still has, virtually nothing to do with it. The “global warming crisis” idea, is a product of the theory of evolution. It’s causing unfounded hysteria among people who think controlling human activity can impact the evolution of the earth. This is part of the godless nonsense that has created crazy ideas all through history. There is no need for alarm about the climate. God is sovereign over the weather. Not man.