



Hill Cliffe Study Guide Sunday 6 November 2022

1. What struck you most from Sunday's teaching on Creation Care – Hope for Creation?

HOPE FOR CREATION? - A PRESENT REVOLUTION

Please read **Colossians 1.16-20** and the following commentary from Sunday's sermon...

'Reconcile' meaning - to bring again into unity, harmony, or agreement what has been alienated.

Some have understood the gospel or 'Good News' in a very reductionist or narrow way - purely involving God and humanity. However, the bible is more expansive in its understanding of God's intention and purpose in the gospel. God has purposed through Christ, to reconcile all things on earth and in heaven under the Kingship of Christ. He will not only reconcile the relationship between God and humanity, but also with the rest of the created order. And one day all things will be made new in God's peace and perfection.

God doesn't consider his creation like disposable rubbish – of no value – fit for the bin. Instead, He cherishes, nurtures and sustains his creation – because He loves it. And because he loves it – He has plans to reconcile it.

2. How should Christ's mission to reconcile all things on earth and in heaven influence our attitude to the care of creation?
3. How does it help us to know whether God's concern is...
to save souls or to save seals?
to care for the poor or for the forests?



"Developed nations have failed to cut greenhouse gas emissions fast enough and failed to provide the money needed for poor nations to cope with the resulting extreme weather. The glaring climate inequality between the rich world (which is responsible for most emissions), and the poor (which are bearing the brunt of the impacts) is now the biggest issue at the Cop27 summit."

4. Please pray for promises to be kept, and for justice to be done at Cop 27 – then beyond.
5. How might we help advocate for Justice to be done in this context?



"The major challenge in front of us is not technical or financial. What's needed is a mindset shift – from self-interest to the interest of all and the world itself."

6. How might this mindset (which is very Jesus-like) revolutionise your personal decisions in your care of creation?

HOPE FOR CREATION? - A FUTURE RENEWAL

Please read **Romans 8.18-23**

7. Why is creation groaning?
8. How will it be liberated from its bondage to decay?

Please read **Isaiah 11.1-2,6-9; Acts 3.21; Rev 21.1-5**

9. How do these passages describe the future for the new (or renewed) creation?