Climate Change From a Christian’s Perspective

It has been stated by scientists that earth does not belong to man, but rather, man belongs to earth. According to them, man is a part of the web of life and is a part of his environment. This cannot be true, because if man is only a part of the web of life, then he has no responsibility for looking after it. If man is not responsible for the problems of the earth, then there is no ultimate responsibility for what he does.

What does the Bible tell us about our environment? Genesis 1:28 says, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over the fishes of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.” We have clearly given the charge of taking dominion of our environment. We are free to do it as we please. But with the task of possessing our environment also comes responsibility. Galatians 6:7 says that a man reaps what he sows. If we are going to abuse our environment, then we will suffer the consequences of our greedy actions.

So what is our responsibility in this present day and age? What are we to do about climate change? Since we cannot wind back time to repair the damage, we must take a different approach to the issue of climate change. This approach is to reach out to those who have been affected. To do whatever we can to ease the burdens that they bear. Many of them are so poor that they need outside help and assistance to be able to survive.

The question that man must ask himself is “How can we wind back time to mend what our fathers did?” But instead, “How can we help those who have been affected by the changes in the climate?”

— Andrew Sheehy

The Many Strong Voices Programme. It illustrates in a personal way what climate change means to young people in the Arctic and small Island Developing States and helps communities create their own visual archive of the changes they are experiencing. More @ www.manystrongvoices.org