



For the Beauty of the Earth: A Christian Vision for Creation Care

Steven Bouma-Prediger

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Caring for the environment is a growing interest among evangelicals. This award-winning book provides the most thorough evangelical treatment available on a theology of creation care. "Authentic Christian faith requires ecological obedience," writes Steven Bouma-Prediger. He urges Christians to acknowledge their responsibility and privilege as stewards of the earth. The second edition has been substantially revised and updated with the latest scientific and environmental research.

For the Beauty of the Earth: A Christian Vision for Creation Care Details

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From Reader Review For the Beauty of the Earth: A Christian Vision for Creation Care for online ebook

Abby Tamkin says

A very good survey of Christian environmental stewardship and associated concepts.

The chapter topics are:

1. An ecological perception of place
2. The groaning of creation (what's wrong with the world)
3. The ecological complaint against Christianity (review of arguments and discussion. This also was review and rebuttal of arguments against creation care.)
4. The connection between scripture and ecology
(this was one of my favorite parts. He includes his own paraphrase/translation of several creation related passages, which are beautifully rendered)
5. A theology and ethic of care for the earth
6. Earth care and character (theological motifs, virtues and vices as related to stewardship. This was interesting, but it was pretty long and it got a little tedious)
7. Arguments for Earth care
(this was a really interesting chapter. A good discussion of 10 arguments for creation care, together making a cumulative argument.)
8. Where is there hope? Christian faith at home on earth (mostly a summary chapter. Favorite quote from this chapter:
"If God is really at the center of things.... then...buck the dominant consequentialist ethic of our age--which says that we should act only if our action will most likely bring about good consequences--and simply, because we are people who embody the virtue of hope, do the right thing..... We should fulfill our calling to be caretakers of the earth regardless of whether global warming is real or there are holes in the ozone layer or three nonhuman species become extinct each day."

Kate says

Disclaimer: I heavily skimmed this book to glean for dissertation info.

Bouma-Prediger offers a smart, interesting, concise overview of the interaction of ecology and theology. He explains exceedingly complicated theological and ethical concepts in a readable, usable, and engaging manner. The Biblical exegesis is enlightening and his conclusions are thoughtful and inspiring. Like any attempt at squeezing a large topic into a small space, it is a bit choppy and sometimes dense, but on the whole this is a fantastic introduction to evangelical environmentalism for any interested reader.
