



THE FALL AND THE CALL | MAY 16, 2021 | CRAIG REES

Big Idea: The Fall negatively impacted both our relationship with God and our relation to creation. Consequently, the solution to any ecological crisis is to fall to our knees in surrender.

The ecological problem is a relational problem.

Key Scripture:

Genesis 1:28-30	Genesis 6:11-12	Zechariah 9:15	Numbers 32:20-22, 29	Isaiah 51:3
Genesis 2:15	Genesis 9:1-2	Micah 7:19	Nehemiah 5:5	Ezekiel 36:34-35
Genesis 3	Numbers 6:24-26	Joshua 18:1	Esther 7:8	Joel 2:3

1. **Read Numbers 6:24-26.** How do you understand the promise of God to 'keep' His people? Remembering that the word 'keep' is the same word as 'care' (Gen. 2:15), what does God's keeping of us say about our 'care' for the world?
2. **Read Genesis 3:14-19** where the Fall impacts Adam and Eve's relationship with both creation and God. What significance does the claim that the Christian's ecology theology begins with reconciliation have for how a Christian engages with the world outside on ecological issues?
3. To subdue means to bring into bondage, to assault, and bring into subjection. From your perspective, how do Genesis 1 and 2 describe the relationship between the creation and Adam and Eve? How do you understand the mission God gave Adam and Eve to 'subdue'?
4. **Read Genesis 1:28-30 alongside Genesis 9:1-2.** Recognizing the creation, fall, recreation theme commentators see playing out in Genesis 1-11, how do you understand the repeating mandates of being fruitful, multiplying, and filling the earth in light of the changes to subduing, ruling, fear, and food? Do the changes imply something has changed in the relationship between creation and humanity?
5. Despite the tragedy of Genesis 1-11, the hope is unmistakable. Three promises are made:
 - a. **God will crush the enemy** (Gen. 3:15): How has God overcome the enemy in your life?
 - b. **Comfort** (Gen. 5:29): How have you experienced God comfort?
 - c. **Blessing** (Gen. 8:21-22; 9:1-7): How has God blessed you recently?

As you consider each of these promises, ask God to bring one person into your path who you can encourage with your experience of God's protection in a world of frustration.

6. What is your biggest takeaway from this message?