



**BIODIVERSITY**  
**ENERGY**  
**FOOD SECURITY**  
**ECOCHURCH**

***Before human beings existed:***

**So God made the giant sea monsters & all the living creatures that swim in the sea. He also made every kind of bird.**

**God looked at what he had done, and it was good.**

**Then he gave the living creatures his blessing. Gen1:21-22 CEV**



# BIODIVERSITY

***Over half a million different species of beetle!***

***Why so many species and what good are they?***

Walk out into the fields and look at the wild flowers...Have you ever seen colour and design quite like it?....**If God gives such attention to the appearance of wildflowers** - most of which are never even seen -don't you think He'll attend to you, take pride in you,do His best for you? **Matt 6:28-30 TM**





# BIODIVERSITY

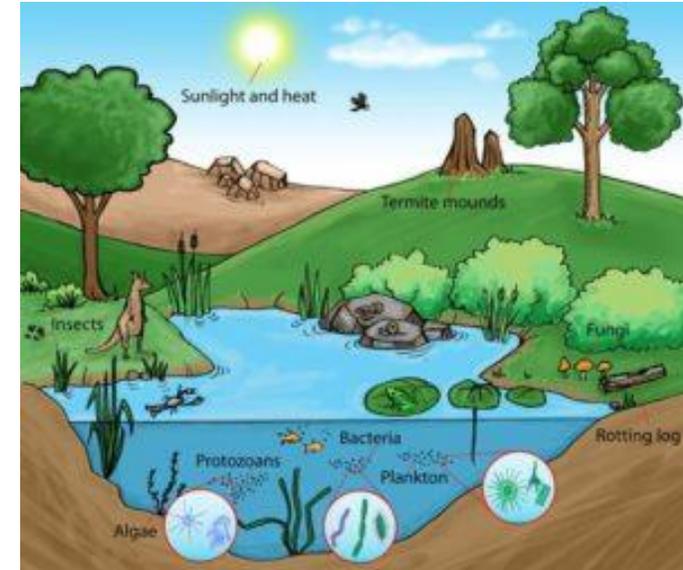
## *What is biodiversity & why does it matter to us?*

Damian Carrington, Guardian 12th Mar 2018:

**Biodiversity** = **Earth habitable** for billions of years.  
Air you breathe, water you drink, food you eat all rely on biodiversity.

“Without biodiversity, there is no future for humanity.”

Prof David Macdonald, Oxford University.



Let us make **human beings** in our image, make them reflecting our nature so they can be **responsible** for the fish in the sea, the birds in the air, the cattle, and, yes, Earth itself, and every animal that moves on the face of Earth

**Gen 1:26 TM**



# BIODIVERSITY

***Balance - essential for life on earth that our ecosystems maintain a fine balance***

No Bees to pollinate = no Fruit or Nuts.

No Fruit-eating Animals = no dispersal of Tree Seed

No trees = no Removal of Carbon Dioxide

No trees = no Absorption of Air Pollution in cities

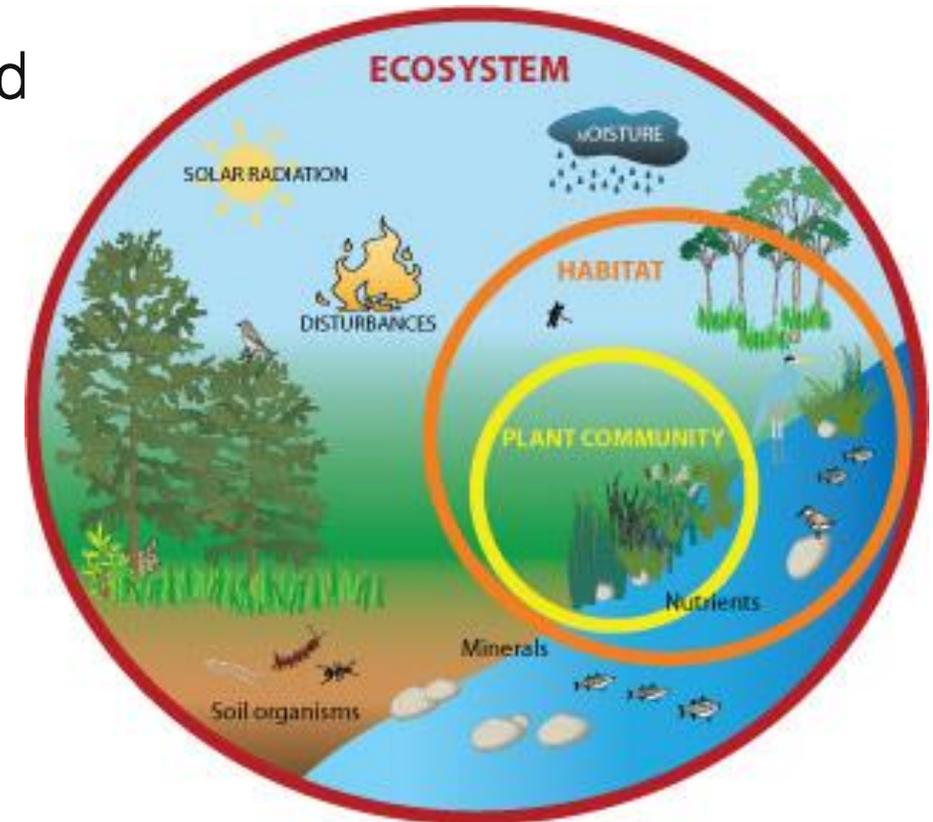
No Plants = no Oxygen

No Coral reefs & Mangrove swamps =

no Protection against Tsunamis

**Ecosystems**, if undamaged = a balanced system

which contributes to **a healthy sustainable planet.**





# BIODIVERSITY

*Tomorrow's world?*

**Sir David Attenborough:**

“Just imagine what might be possible....Tomorrow’s world could be **more diverse, more stable, more wild**. It’s within our power if we start making the right choices from today”.





# ENERGY

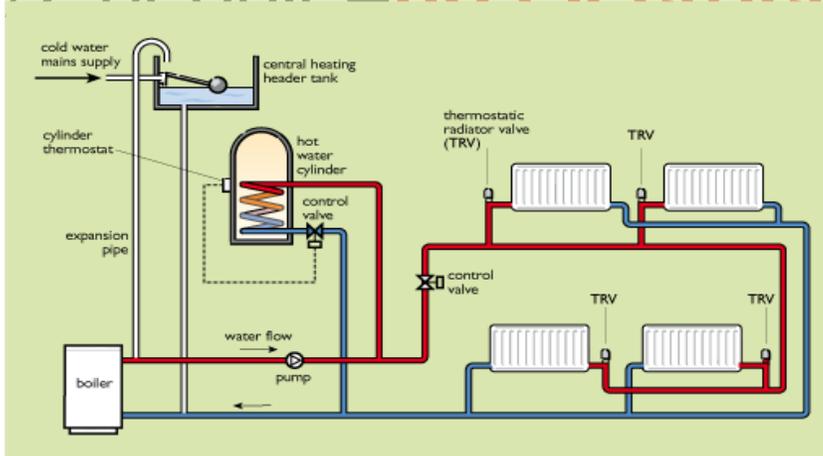
Too little energy (eg no heating)=people die

Too much energy (eg global warming/  
extreme weather events)=people die

World producing **20% over** safe carbon  
limit

1/7 people=**no electricity**

*Family history  
- the Energy we use  
that our  
grandparent's didn't!*



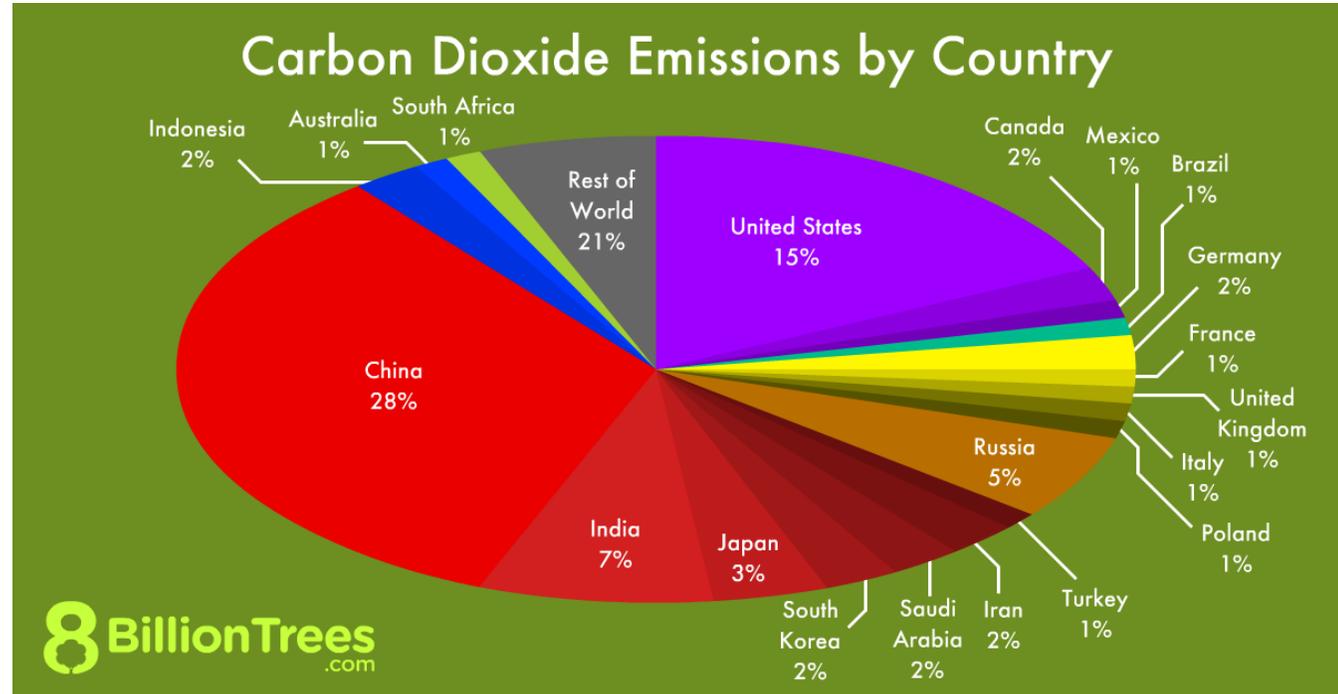


# ENERGY

**Energy justice** - *helping the have-nots without disaster for the haves*

And what does the Lord require of you? To **act justly** & to **love mercy** & to **walk humbly** with your God.  
**Micah 6:8 NIV**

***Cause of justice not served when world's richest nations place an unsustainable burden on world's poorest nations***





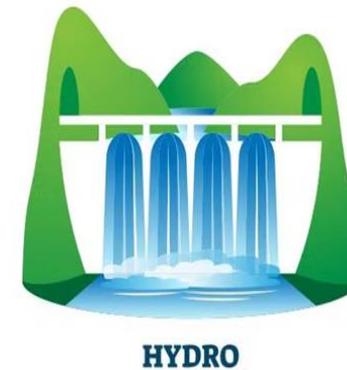
# ENERGY

## Renewable energy sources

God can **pour on the blessings in astonishing ways** so that you're ready for anything and everything, more than just ready to do what needs to be done. In one psalm:

*He throws caution to the winds,  
giving to the needy in reckless  
abandon.*

*His right-living, right-giving ways*





# FOOD SECURITY

**Everybody** has access to **sufficient**, safe, nutritious **food** that meets their food preferences & dietary needs for **an active & healthy life**.

When you harvest your land, **don't harvest right up to the edges of your field** or gather the gleanings from the harvest. **Don't strip your vineyard bare** or go back and pick up the fallen grapes. Leave them for **the poor and the**





# FOOD SECURITY

**Buying food locally** saves food miles and supports British farming  
**Not buying overseas produce** ruins third world farmers' livelihoods.

With a hungry crowd on his hands, Jesus said, "This crowd is **breaking my heart. ...they have nothing to eat.** If I send them home hungry, they'll faint along the way.

His disciples responded, "What do you expect us to do about it? **Buy food out here in the desert?"** Mark 8:1-4 TM



NFU: Some 30% of the world's wheat comes from Ukraine & Russia. Price of gas - which is used to heat greenhouses & make fertiliser soaring



# FOOD SECURITY

**Our earth & modern methods of farming production** are capable of feeding the whole world even with population growth

Greatest commandment:  
**Love the Lord your God** with all your heart  
& with all your soul  
& with all your mind  
& with all your strength  
....**Love your neighbour**  
as yourself.

**Mark 12:30-31 NIV**



Solar water pumps for sustainable irrigation



Vertical farming using hydroponics



The Great Commission:  
Therefore go & make  
disciples of all nations,  
baptising them in the  
name of the Father & of  
the Son & of the Holy  
Spirit, & **teaching them  
to obey everything I  
have commanded you.**

**Matthew 28:19-20 NIV**

# ECOCHURCH

**Christians in the vanguard** - the other side of the gospel



William Carey, who founded the **Baptist Missionary Society (BMS)**, formed the Agri-Horticultural Society in India in 1820.

David Stockley, an agriculturally trained missionary working for BMS, helped create **Operation Agri**



# ECOCHURCH

A Rocha UK (ARUK) is a Christian charity for the **protection & restoration of the natural world** committed to **equipping Christians & churches** in the UK to care for the environment

**Colossians 1** where Christ is described as the One through whom all things are **created & held together**.

For followers of Christ there is **a special responsibility** to become deeply involved in creation & the redemption of all things

A Rocha's Ecochurch audit:

1. Worship & teaching
2. Buildings
3. Land
4. Community & global engagement
5. Lifestyle





# ECOCHURCH

## Sustainable living as individuals

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as though you were working for the Lord and not for people. Remember that the Lord will give you as a reward what he has kept for his people. For **Christ is the real Master you serve.**

**Colossians 3:23-24 GNT**



Sustainable living is not just a chore or a duty. Saving energy saves **the planet & our pockets** Enjoying fresh air is good for **lungs & soul** Saying no to plastic saves **ocean creatures** and keeps **our world beautiful**