**What does the bible say about climate change?**

1. God created a wonderful world which works, and he delights in it
*Psalm 24 verses 1, 2*The earth is the Lord’s and all that fills it, the compass of the world and all who dwell therein.
For he has founded it upon the seas and set it firm upon the rivers of the deep.
2. Our calling is to live in harmony with God’s creation, nurturing rather than merely using it.
*Leviticus 25 verses 1 – 4*The Lord spoke to Moses on Mount Sinai, saying: Speak to the people of Israel and say to them: When you enter the land that I am giving you, the land shall observe a sabbath for the Lord. For six years you shall sow your field, and for six years you shall prune your vineyard, and gather in their yield; but in the seventh year there shall be a sabbath of complete rest for the land, a sabbath for the Lord: you shall not sow your field or prune your vineyard.
3. God’s plan is that creation will be renewed and restored to an Eden like state when he brings in the Kingdom of God in its fullness
*Romans 8 verse 19*
the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God.
4. When our relationship with God or anyone else or anything else gets out of alignment there are consequences.
*Amos 2 verses 6, 7*
For three transgressions of Israel,
   and for four, I will not revoke the punishment;
because they sell the righteous for silver,
   and the needy for a pair of sandals?
they who trample the head of the poor into the dust of the earth,
   and push the afflicted out of the way;
5. Human beings can in theory put things right to mend relationships (and restore creation) but in practice we have never yet chosen to do this. It takes God to break the power of sin.
*1 Timothy 1 verse 15*The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners
6. The Christian hope is that God will renew creation (and us) but that does not mean he will sustain our comfortable lifestyles to which we have become accustomed
*Jeremiah 4 verse 27*thus says the LORD: The whole land shall be a desolation; yet I will not make a full end.
7. If we do not change now, we will be in for a very uncomfortable time~
*Deuteronomy 28 verses 15 – 17*if you will not obey the Lord your God by diligently observing all his commandments and decrees, which I am commanding you today, then all these curses shall come upon you and overtake you: Cursed shall you be in the city, and cursed shall you be in the field. Cursed shall be your basket and your kneeding bowl

**Which categories would you put these bible verses into?**

* *Psalm 29 verses 1, 2*Ascribe to the Lord, you powers of heaven, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

Ascribe to the Lord the honour due to his name; worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

* *Job 39 verses 1 – 3*‘Do you know when the mountain goats give birth?
Do you observe the calving of the deer?
Can you number the months that they fulfil,
and do you know the time when they give birth,
when they crouch to give birth to their offspring,
and are delivered of their young?
* *Colossians 1 verses15, 16*Christ is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers – all things have been created through him and for him
* *Jonah 4 verses 9 – 11*
God said to Jonah, ‘Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?’ And he said, ‘Yes, angry enough to die.’ Then the Lord said, ‘You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labour and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?’
* *Genesis 1 verse 26*Then God said, ‘Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.’
* *Hosea 14 verses 4 – 6*I will heal their disloyalty;
I will love them freely,
for my anger has turned from them.
I will be like the dew to Israel;
he shall blossom like the lily,
he shall strike root like the forests of Lebanon.
His shoots shall spread out;
his beauty shall be like the olive tree,
and his fragrance like that of Lebanon.
* *Isaiah 5 verses 8 – 10*Ah, you who join house to house,
   who add field to field,
until there is room for no one but you,
   and you are left to live alone
   in the midst of the land!
The Lord of hosts has sworn in my hearing:
Surely many houses shall be desolate,
   large and beautiful houses, without inhabitant.
For ten acres of vineyard shall yield but one bath,
   and a homer of seed shall yield a mere ephah.
* *Ezekiel 34 verses 2 – 5*Thus says the Lord God: Ah, you shepherds of Israel who have been feeding yourselves! Should not shepherds feed the sheep? You eat the fat, you clothe yourselves with the wool, you slaughter the fatlings; but you do not feed the sheep. You have not strengthened the weak, you have not healed the sick, you have not bound up the injured, you have not brought back the strayed, you have not sought the lost, but with force and harshness you have ruled them. So they were scattered, because there was no shepherd; and scattered, they became food for all the wild animals.
* *Leviticus 19 verses 9 ,10*When you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not reap to the very edges of your field, or gather the gleanings of your harvest. You shall not strip your vineyard bare, or gather the fallen grapes of your vineyard; you shall leave them for the poor and the alien: I am the Lord your God.
* *Mark 16 verse 15*
Jesus said to the eleven, ‘Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation.
* *Luke 3 verse 6*
all flesh shall see the salvation of God.
* *Joel 1 verses 4 – 7*
What the cutting locust left,
   the swarming locust has eaten.
What the swarming locust left,
   the hopping locust has eaten,
and what the hopping locust left,
   the destroying locust has eaten.
Wake up, you drunkards, and weep;
   and wail, all you wine-drinkers,
over the sweet wine,
   for it is cut off from your mouth.
For a nation has invaded my land,
   powerful and innumerable;
its teeth are lions’ teeth,
   and it has the fangs of a lioness.
It has laid waste my vines,
   and splintered my fig trees;
it has stripped off their bark and thrown it down;
   their branches have turned white.
* *Acts 2 verse 17 / Joel 2 verse 28*In the last days it will be, God declares,
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,
* *John 19 verse 11*Jesus answered him, ‘You would have no power over me unless it had been given you from above
* *Exodus 23 verses 5, 6*
When you see the donkey of one who hates you lying under its burden and you would hold back from setting it free, you must help to set it free. You shall not pervert the justice due to your poor in their lawsuits.
* *Ephesians 1 verse 4*Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love.
* *Micah 4 verses 6, 7*On that day, says the LORD,
I will assemble the lame
and gather those who have been driven away,
and those whom I have afflicted.
The lame I will make the remnant,
and those who were cast off, a strong nation;
and the LORD will reign over them in Mount Zion
now and for evermore.
* *Malachi 3 verses 5 – 7*I will draw near to you for judgement; I will be swift to bear witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired workers in their wages, the widow, and the orphan, against those who thrust aside the alien, and do not fear me, says the Lord of hosts. For I the Lord do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, have not perished. Ever since the days of your ancestors you have turned aside from my statutes and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you, says the Lord of hosts.
* *Matthew 7 verses 13, 14*Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the road is easy that leads to destruction, and there are many who take it. For the gate is narrow and the road is hard that leads to life, and there are few who find it.
* *1 Corinthians 2 verses 1 – 5*
When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.
* *1 John 4 verse 10*
In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins.

Suggest give a brief resume through the seven points with one verse to demonstrate each.

Split into groups with say 21 verses to sort into categories

Give everyone a sheet

One minute conclusion linking to mission (sermons available at back). Invite anyone to alert of passages which appear to preach a contrary view.

My opinion is that virtually all bible passages pay tribute to one of these categories. I have tried to use as many different books of the bible as possible

Invite people to evenings because we believe we have something to say