The Destiny of Earth



On April 22, 2020 we celebrated "Earth Day." For many, "Earth" is a religion. People call our planet "Mother Earth," as if everything that exists here was born from her.

Many call the earth "Gaia." "<u>In Greek mythology</u>, Gaia is the personification of Earth, and one of the Greek primordial deities. Gaia is the ancestral mother of all life: the primal Mother Earth goddess."

Environmentalists are gleeful that the reduction in work during the Wuhan, China Coronavirus has dramatically <u>reduced the amount of nitrogen dioxide in the air</u>. For some, the trade-off for a crippled economy is to be celebrated. "<u>Marshall Burke</u>, an assistant professor at Stanford's Department of Earth System Science, said the better air quality could have saved between 50,000 and 75,000 people from dying prematurely." And how would he know that?

The Apostle Peter, writing in the first century, predicted that, "in the last days mockers will come with their mocking, following after their own lusts, and saying, 'Where is the promise of His (i.e. Jesus') coming? For ever since the fathers fell asleep, all continues just as it was from the beginning of creation" (2 Peter 3:3-4).

That is the prevailing dogma of our day – <u>uniformitarianism</u>. Throughout time all things continue at the same rate of speed. The present is the key to the past. <u>Uniformitarianism</u>, except for a completely nonsensical "<u>Big Bang</u>" is the cornerstone of astronomical and biological evolution. But Peter will cite two past facts of history and one future reality that completely distort our perception of time. Let us listen...

He continued, "For when they maintain this, it escapes their notice that by the word of God the heavens existed long ago, and the earth was formed out of water and by water, through which the world at that time was destroyed, being flooded with water" (2 Pet. 3:5-6). The two past facts of history are (1) that God created this universe and earth in a mere six days – and neither evolved over 13.8 billions of years, triggered by a counter-intuitive Big Bang. (2) Moreover, the geologic strata that evolutionists use to date the earth were not laid down over 4.54 billions of years. They are sedimentary deposits laid down in the year of Noah's Great Flood. So two acts of God in the past make our earth seem incredibly older than it really is.

(3) There is a third thing of which mockers are ignorant. Peter continued, "But by His word the present heavens and earth are being reserved for fire, kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men" (2 Pet. 3:7). He continued, "But the day of the LORD will come like a thief, in which the heavens will pass away with a roar and the elements will be destroyed with intense heat, and the earth and its works will be burned up" (2 Pet. 3:10).

Then Peter made an application, which all of us would do well to heed. He wrote, "Since all these things are to be destroyed in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the

heavens will be destroyed by burning, and the elements will melt with intense heat" (2 Pet. 3:11-12).

And then Peter held at the future certainty that certainly keeps me going: "But according to His promise we are looking for new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness dwells" (2 Pet. 3:13).

Peter had a final word of exhortation: "Therefore, beloved, since you look for these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace, spotless and blameless, and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation ..." (2 Pet. 3:14-15a).

I can hardly wait for that new universe and new earth, in which only righteousness and righteous people will exist. No more wars, no more lies, no more murder, no more evil, no more death, no more sorrow, no more tears, and no more Pandemics.

James T. Bartsch
WordExplain.com
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Email Contact: jbartsch@wordexplain.com