

Dear friends,

Last night I finished a book entitled "Global Warming and the Risen Lord." The author Jim Ball's Orthodox Christian theology conflicts directly with my faith, and yet his message is strong enough that I still feel encouraged to recommend the book to others.

Given that the title tells the perspective reader the subject matter is both religious and about protecting the Earth's environment, a casual observer would expect the book to be extremely preachy. A fairly high percentage of individuals are likely to be turned off by one subject or the other, if not both. While it is fair to say that it is somewhat preachy (how couldn't it be?), it doesn't come across in a blaming way. The author takes a very forward thinking approach to a problem that he presents in a fact-supported, solution-driven way. He supports it primarily with Biblical teaching, but he doesn't lose the message that all of us should feel compelled to want to protect the Earth's environment as a way of loving one another in a more basic sense. It was interesting to me to examine how a Christian minister uses the Bible to instill in fellow Christians a sense of duty to join him in action as servants of God on an issue that may not typically be regarded as faith-based.

Reverend Ball attempts to inspire the reader to use what gifts we might have to further the ends of reducing both the causes and negative impacts of global warming. I have some experience with trying to encourage people to read about and/or open their minds to subjects they aren't otherwise interested in, so I figured it might be worth the time to try to encourage hopefully more than a few people to read this book. It isn't necessarily a fun subject, and the book can be a bit tedious and at times repetitive, but I believe it was well worth the time invested. I thank my sister Jana for buying it for me and am happy to lend it to anyone interested. The cost is \$25, and you can find it on line through the "Evangelical Environmental Network." I hope you get the opportunity to read this book and are likewise inspired.

So it is.
Bob Young