

Take-Aways Fact Sheet

Below are all the facts and statistics related to climate change that are referenced in various take-aways in this guide. The Scripture passages whose take-aways contain the specific information are also provided for easy reference.

Natural Disasters

- Climate change exacerbates the occurrence of droughts and flooding which contribute to food and water scarcity ([Gen 3: 17-19](#), [2 Chr 7: 13-14](#)).
- Natural disasters have quadrupled in the last 20 years due to climate change ([Micah 6: 1-8](#), [Matt 22: 37-40](#), [Lk 4: 18-19](#)).

Disease

- Disease carrying insects now live in regions where previously they could not survive, spreading illnesses such as malaria, typhoid and yellow fever to people who have never before had to worry about them ([2 Chr 7: 13-14](#), [Lev 26: 14-35](#), [Matt 22: 37-40](#)).
- It is predicted that a 1 degree Celsius rise in global temperature will lead to spikes in typhoid, malaria, and water borne illnesses ([Lev 26: 14-35](#), [Matt 25: 31-45](#)).
- Diarrhea, malaria, and protein-energy malnutrition caused more than 3 million deaths worldwide in 2002 ([Matt 25: 31-45](#)).

Food and Water

- Rising temperatures create droughts and floods, which contribute to food and water scarcity ([2 Chr 7: 13-14](#)).
- The global food crisis, which is predicted only to worsen, is exacerbated by climate change ([Gen 3: 17-19](#), [Lev 26: 14-35](#)).

- 40% of the world's population gets its drinking water from glaciers that are disappearing ([Matt 22: 37-40](#)).
- 100 million additional people could be forced into poverty as a result of the worsening food crisis ([Matt 25: 31-45](#)).
- More than one billion people are likely to face inadequate water supplies by 2050 ([Matt 25: 31-45](#)).

Poverty and the Economy

- The poor are most likely to be reliant on subsistence farming and also to live in areas especially susceptible to flooding and drought. Therefore, they are already experiencing the devastating effects of climate change through disruptions in agriculture and destruction of their homes ([Ex 23: 10-12](#), [Lk 4: 18-19](#)).
- The U.S. has roughly 4 percent of the world's population, but consumes 25 percent of its oil. It is the emissions of wealthy, industrialized countries that have the most significant impact on climate change ([Lk 16: 13](#)).
- Investing in renewable energy will boost the economy by creating good green jobs that cannot be outsourced and break our dependence on foreign oil. Furthermore, the United States spends enormous amounts of money responding to natural disasters and intervening in regions of the world threatened with political destabilization, both of which are exacerbated by climate change ([Lk 16: 13](#)).
- The poor are triply burdened by climate change in that they have contributed to it the least, they are the most impacted by its effects, and they are the least able to protect themselves ([Micah 6: 1-8](#)).
 - When natural disasters do strike, second and third world countries lack the infrastructure necessary to respond and rebuild ([Micah 6: 1-8](#), [Lk 4: 18-19](#)).
 - The poor are 20 times more likely to be impacted by natural disasters (which have quadrupled in the last 20 years due to climate change), than populations above the poverty line ([Micah 6: 1-8](#), [Matt 22: 37-40](#), [Lk 4: 18-19](#)).

National Security

- When the cost of a barrel of crude oil increases \$10, the Ayatollah Khamenei in Iran gets \$15 billion more, Putin in Russia gets an extra \$36 billion, and Hugo Chavez in Venezuela gets an additional \$10 billion. We are dependent on these countries to maintain our life style ([Lev 26: 3-13, 14-35](#)).
- We are currently borrowing money from China to buy oil from the Middle East where we are engaged in war, meaning that the money we pay to fuel our military is going to many of the regimes funding the very people our soldiers are fighting ([Lev 26: 14-35](#)).
- Rising waters and worsening droughts will force the mass-migration of billions of people, destabilizing regions and creating ungoverned spaces where terrorists can flourish. We have already witnessed this chain of events in Afghanistan in the 1990s, and currently see it in Somalia ([Hos 4: 1-3](#)).
 - After the drying of Lake Chad, competition for land among climate refugees led to the eruption of genocide in Darfur leaving 300,000 people dead ([Hos 4: 1-3](#)).
 - More than 50 percent of the world's population lives within 40 miles of a shoreline ([Hos 4: 1-3](#)).