# [***University of Florida Researcher Highlights Research in Climate Change (Association of Religious End Time Beliefs with Attitudes toward Climate Change and Biodiversity Loss)***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:68GF-K341-DY7R-R1R1-00000-00&context=1516831)

Climate Change Daily News

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**Section:** CLIMATE CHANGE

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**Body**

2023 JUN 16 (NewsRx) -- By a News Reporter-Staff News Editor at Climate Change Daily News -- A new study on climate change is now available. According to news originating from Gainesville, Florida, by NewsRx correspondents, research stated, "Mobilizing communities for environmental sustainability often involves engaging with religious values and beliefs, which can exert powerful influences on the attitudes, norms, and behaviors of the majority of people worldwide."

Funders for this research include National Science Foundation; Religious Research Association.

The news correspondents obtained a quote from the research from University of Florida: "Christianity is the largest world religion and, in some contexts, has also been among the most skeptical of climate and environmental concerns. A popular explanation for this skepticism focuses on eschatological views (i.e., end time beliefs) and posits that if the earth is going to be destroyed someday, there is little point in conserving it now. Empirical evidence is lacking, however, on the extent to which such beliefs actually influence environmental attitudes. We surveyed Christian undergraduate students in the US (N = 1520) and found that belief in the imminent return of Jesus Christ was not significantly associated with variables tested regarding ***biodiversity*** ***loss*** or climate change."

According to the news reporters, the research concluded: "Furthermore, a plurality responded that the earth will be renewed at the end (43%), not destroyed (24%), and beliefs about the fate of the earth were generally not related to attitudinal measures-except for a slim minority of respondents with strongest views that the earth will be destroyed-but were significantly associated with political ideology and literalist views of Scripture. These findings suggest that end time views may not be a major obstacle-at least among younger American Christians-to promoting socio-ecological sustainability."

For more information on this research see: Association of Religious End Time Beliefs with Attitudes toward Climate Change and ***Biodiversity*** ***Loss***. Sustainability, 2023,15(11). (Sustainability - http://www.mdpi.com/journal/sustainability). The publisher for Sustainability is MDPI AG.

A free version of this journal article is available at https://doi.org/10.3390/su15119071.

Our news editors report that more information may be obtained by contacting Benjamin S. Lowe, Department of Wildlife Ecology and Conservation, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL 32611, United States. Additional authors for this research include Susan K. Jacobson, Glenn D. Israel, Anna L. Peterson.

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Keywords for this news article include: University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida, United States, North and Central America, ***Biodiversity***, Climate Change, Ecology, Global Warming.

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