

Supplementary Materials

This supplementary file contains additional data and methodological detail as well as extended presentation of our results with supporting tables and figures.

File S1. Christian (Protestant) higher education institutions sampled in this study (in alphabetical order with number of respondents in parentheses):

Abilene Christian University, Abilene, TX (N=21)	Lee University, Cleveland, TN (N=25)
Anderson University, Anderson, IN (N=24)	Malone University, Canton, OH (N=25)
Bethel University-IN, Mishawaka, IN (N=74)	Northwestern College, Orange City, IA (N=72)
Bethel University-MN, St. Paul, MN (N=38)	Olivet Nazarene University, Bourbonnais, IL (N=132)
Biola University, La Mirada, CA (N=34)	Oral Roberts University, Tulsa, OK (N=89)
Campbellsville University, Campbellsville, KY (N=3)	Point Loma Nazarene University, San Diego, CA (N=89)
Carson-Newman University, Jefferson City, TN (N=98)	Southeastern University, Lakeland, FL (N=32)
Cedarville University, Cedarville, OH (N=127)	Southern Nazarene University, Bethany, OK (N=48)
Cornerstone University, Grand Rapids, MI (N=48)	Taylor University, Upland, IN (N=17)
Covenant College, Lookout Mountain, GA (N=38)	Toccoa Falls College, Toccoa Falls, GA (N=54)
Dort University, Sioux Center, IA (N=30)	Trevecca Nazarene University, Nashville, TN (N=39)
Eastern University, St. Davids, PA (N=89)	Warner University, Lake Wales, FL (N=66)
Eastern Mennonite University, Harrisonburg, VA (N=26)	Wayland Baptist University, Plainview, TX (N=20)
Fresno Pacific University, Fresno, CA (N=20)	Waynesburg University, Waynesburg, PA (N=61)
Gordon College, Wenham, MA (N=10)	Westmont College, Santa Barbara, CA (N=5)
Greenville University, Greenville, IL (N=36)	Wheaton College, Wheaton, IL (N=105)
Houghton College, Houghton, NY (N=9)	Whitworth University, Spokane, WA (N=47)
John Brown University, Siloam Springs, AR (N=18)	

File S2. Three major end time theories held by Christians that differ in how they understand the anticipated thousand-year rule of Christ on earth (known as the Millennium; see Revelation 20):

Postmillennialism:	Drawing on biblical passages that portray God's kingdom as steadily expanding over time (e.g., Matthew 13/Mark 4/Luke 13, Matthew 28:18-20), post-millennialism holds that the Millennium is a literal thousand-year period, which we currently inhabit. In this view, the worldwide Christian Church will continue to grow and increasingly transform society to align with the Kingdom of God culminating in the return Christ to begin his eternal reign. Postmillennialism holds an optimistic view of history and was more popular before the horrors of World War I and II, and it has lost considerable traction since then (Erickson 1998).
Amillennialism:	The Millennium is a figurative period instead of being an actual thousand years. It refers to the ongoing era since Jesus' ascension to heaven (following his crucifixion, death, and resurrection; see Luke 24 and Acts 1) through the present. In this time, the Church is supposed to continue carrying out the mission of God until Christ comes back for the final judgement to overthrow evil and death and establish God's reign of justice and peace (Erickson 1998).
Premillennialism:	The Millennium is a literal thousand-year period. Christ will come back before the start of the Millennium period to rule the world for a thousand years, during which the devil (Satan) will be held captive. At the end of the Millennium, Satan will be released for a short while, resulting in a final great battle in which Christ will be victorious. This will lead to the final judgement where Christ will overthrow evil and death and fully establish God's rule. Of these three main schools of thought, premillennialism takes the most literal interpretation of Revelation 20 (Curry Roper 1990; Guth et al. 1995), although there is much debate—including in American evangelicalism—about how literally the Book of Revelation is meant to be interpreted given its literary genre (Gorman 2011). Premillennialism can be further distinguished into pre-tribulational premillennialism (i.e., dispensationalism) and post-tribulational premillennialism (i.e., historic premillennialism). The main difference between them is when Christ will return to evacuate his people before a time of great suffering (the Great Tribulation; Daniel 12, Matthew 24, Revelation 7) begins. Dispensationalism holds that the faithful will be rescued before the tribulation, while historic premillennialism holds that the faithful will have to endure part or all of the tribulation before Christ returns.

File S3. Bivariate relationships (displayed in column percentages) between the imminent return of Jesus Christ and variables in this study (N=1520)

Variable	Response categories	2 nd coming of Christ could take place at any time	
		Agree	Disagree
Global warming happening	Yes	90%	86%
	No	10%	14%
Global warming cause	Caused by humans	76%	74%
	Not humans	24%	26%
Global warming worry	Not at all/not very worried	40%	37%
	Somewhat/very worried	60%	63%
Global warming priority—you	Low	23%	25%
	Medium	43%	33%
	High	34%	41%
Global warming priority—Christians	Low	13%	17%
	Medium	42%	43%
	High	45%	41%
Global warming priority—government	Low	10%	11%
	Medium	29%	25%
	High	61%	64%
Biodiversity loss worry	Not at all/not very worried	24%	22%
	Somewhat/very worried	76%	78%
Biodiversity loss priority—you	Low	20%	18%
	Medium	40%	34%
	High	40%	48%
Biodiversity loss priority—Christians	Low	9%	11%
	Medium	41%	42%
	High	51%	47%
Biodiversity loss priority—government	Low	7%	9%
	Medium	29%	27%
	High	64%	63%
Evangelical identification**	Yes**	74%	43%
	No**	26%	57%

View of the Bible**	Word of God to be taken literally**	23%	7%
	Word of God but not all literal**	73%	50%
		4%	43%
	Not God's word**		
Partisan identification*	Republican*	51%	45%
	Democrat*	16%	26%
	Other	33%	30%
Political ideology*	Conservative*	51%	40%
	Centrist	34%	38%
	Liberal*	15%	22%
Sex*	Female*	63%	52%
	Male*	37%	48%
Race**	White, non-Hispanic**	73%	47%
	Black, non-Hispanic	6%	4%
	Hispanic	9%	6%
	Other, non-Hispanic**	11%	44%

*Chi-Square test significant at the $p < 0.05$ level ** Chi-Square test significant at the $p < 0.01$ level

File S4. Bivariate relationships (displayed in column percentages) between the fate of the earth and variables in this study (N=1520)

Variable	Response categories	Fate of the earth		
		Destroyed	Renewed	Other
Global warming happening	Yes	91%	91%	88%
	No	9%	9%	12%
Global warming cause	Caused by humans	75%	79%	73%
	Not humans	25%	21%	27%
Global warming worry	Not at all/not very worried	42%	37%	41%
	Somewhat/very worried	58%	63%	59%
Global warming priority—you	Low	24%	21%	26%
	Medium	44%	42%	41%
	High	32%	37%	32%
Global warming priority—Christians**	Low**	13%	12%	15%
	Medium	46%	37%	44%
	High**	42%	51%	41%
Global warming priority—government*	Low*	13%	7%	12%
	Medium	29%	26%	30%
	High*	58%	67%	58%
Biodiversity loss worry	Not at all/not very worried	25%	23%	24%
	Somewhat/very worried	75%	77%	76%
Biodiversity loss priority—you	Low	22%	19%	21%
	Medium	39%	40%	38%
	High	39%	42%	41%
Biodiversity loss priority—Christians	Low	9%	7%	9%
	Medium	43%	38%	42%
	High	48%	55%	48%
Biodiversity loss priority—government	Low	8%	7%	9%
	Medium	29%	28%	29%
	High	63%	65%	62%
Evangelical identification	Yes	71%	72%	68%
	No	29%	28%	32%

View of the Bible*	Word of God to be taken literally	22%	19%	24%
	Word of God but not all literal*	70%	76%	67%
	Not God's word*	9%	5%	9%
Partisan identification**	Republican**	58%	45%	50%
	Democrat	17%	17%	18%
	Other**	25%	38%	32%
Political ideology**	Conservative**	54%	43%	55%
	Centrist	29%	38%	33%
	Liberal**	17%	19%	12%
Sex	Female	58%	56%	61%
	Male	42%	44%	39%
Race*	White, non-Hispanic*	67%	76%	65%
	Black, non-Hispanic	8%	5%	9%
	Hispanic	8%	7%	9%
	Other, non-Hispanic*	16%	12%	18%

*Chi-Square test significant at the p<0.05 level ** Chi-Square test significant at the p<0.01 level

File S5. Pooled logistic regression model results predicting how much of a priority it should be for Christians to address biodiversity loss (only those with strongly held beliefs; N=580).

	Predictor	B	SE	F	df	Sig.	Exp (B)	Lower 95% CI	Upper 95% CI
Low priority	Bible=1 (not God's word)	-0.601	0.890	0.456	1, 36.312	0.504	0.548	0.093	3.222
	Bible=2 (not all literal)	-1.122	0.335	11.219	1, 30017.128	0.001	0.326	0.169	0.628
	Bible=3 (literalist)	0					N/A (reference category)		
	Political ideology= 1 (liberal)	-0.960	0.499	3.692	1, 5597.028	0.055	0.383	0.144	1.019
	Political ideology= 2 (centrist)	-1.095	0.383	8.189	1, 515.586	0.004	0.335	0.158	0.709
	Political ideology= 3 (conservative)	0					N/A (reference category)		
	Intercept	-0.547	0.275	3.952	1, 10943.141	0.047	N/A	N/A	N/A
Medium priority	Bible=1	-0.228	0.703	0.105	1, 19.019	0.749	0.796	0.191	3.324
	Bible=2	-0.177	0.230	0.593	1, 22833.682	0.441	0.838	0.534	1.314
	Bible=3	0					N/A (reference category)		
	Political ideology= 1	-1.471	0.314	22.030	1, 755.998	0.000	0.229	0.124	0.424
	Political ideology= 2	-1.027	0.207	24.518	1, 4078.145	0.000	0.358	0.239	0.538
	Political ideology= 3	0					N/A (reference category)		
	Intercept	0.299	0.210	2.029	1, 31667.901	0.154	N/A	N/A	N/A

Overall model: $\chi^2=58.613-67.375$; $df=8$; $p=0.000$; $AIC=81.972-92.931$; $BIC=125.215-137.080$

Reference category is "high priority"

*significant at the $p<0.05$ level

**significant at the $p<0.01$ level

File S6. Pooled logistic regression model results predicting how much of a priority it should be for the government to address biodiversity loss (only those with strongly held beliefs; N=580).

	Predictor	B	SE	F	df	Sig.	Exp (B)	Lower 95% CI	Upper 95% CI
Low priority	Political ideology= 1 (liberal)	-1.608	0.585	7.548	1, 572.714	0.006	0.200	0.063	0.631
	Political ideology= 2 (centrist)	-1.691	0.444	14.518	1, 636.075	0.000	0.184	0.077	0.440
	Political ideology= 3 (conservative)	0					N/A (reference category)		
	Intercept	-1.373	0.187	54.161	1, 3110.621	0.000	N/A	N/A	N/A
Medium priority	Political ideology= 1	-1.710	0.383	19.955	1, 309.417	0.000	0.181	0.085	0.383
	Political ideology= 2	-0.978	0.226	18.769	1, 445.627	0.000	0.376	0.241	0.586
	Political ideology= 3	0					N/A (reference category)		
	Intercept	-0.306	0.132	5.366	1, 506.435	0.021	N/A	N/A	N/A

Overall model: $\chi^2=50.532-61.957$; df=4; p=0.000; AIC=39.154-40.048; BIC=65.100-66.549

Reference category is "high priority"

*significant at the p<0.05 level

**significant at the p<0.01 level

File S7: Survey questions used in this analysis

Q1. Recently you may have noticed that global warming has been getting some attention in the news. Global warming refers to the idea that the world's average temperature has been increasing over the past 150 years, may be increasing more in the future, and that the world's climate may change as a result. What do you think: Do you think that global warming is happening?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Don't know

Q2. Assuming global warming is happening, do you think it is...

- ☐ Caused mostly by human activities
- ☐ Caused mostly by natural changes in the environment
- ☐ Other (please specify): _____
- ☐ None of the above because global warming isn't happening

Q6. How worried are you about...?

	Not at all worried	Not very worried	Somewhat worried	Very worried
a. Global warming	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. Biodiversity loss/extinction	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q10. Do you think addressing global warming should be a low, medium, or high priority...?

	Low priority	Medium priority	High priority
a. For you	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. For your campus	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. For Christians in general	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d. For the government	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q11. Do you think addressing biodiversity loss/extinction should be a low, medium, or high priority...?

	Low priority	Medium priority	High priority
a. For you	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. For your campus	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. For Christians in general	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d. For the government	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q27. What is your religion?

- ☐ Protestant (e.g. Baptist, Methodist, Lutheran, Presbyterian, Anglican/Episcopal, Pentecostal, Reformed, Non-denominational, etc.)
- ☐ Catholic

- ☐ Orthodox (Greek, Russian, or other)
- ☐ Other Christian (please specify): _____
- ☐ Other non-Christian (please specify): _____

Q28. Would you describe yourself as “born-again” or evangelical?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Don’t know

Q29. Aside from weddings, funerals, and any required chapel services at your institution, how often do you attend religious services?

- ☐ Never
- ☐ Once a year or less
- ☐ A few times a year
- ☐ Once or twice a month
- ☐ Once a week
- ☐ More than once a week

Q30. Which of the following comes closest to how you think about the place of religion/faith in your life?

- ☐ Religion is not important in my life
- ☐ Religion is not as important as other things in my life
- ☐ Religion is one of the many important things in my life
- ☐ Religion is the most important thing in my life

Q31. What is your view of the Bible?

- ☐ The word of God and to be taken literally, word for word
- ☐ The word of God but not everything in the Bible should be taken literally, word for word
- ☐ Written by humans and is not the word of God
- ☐ Other (please specify): _____

Q32. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements:

	Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree
a. The Bible is the highest authority for what I believe	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. It is very important for me personally to encourage non-Christians to trust Jesus Christ as their Savior	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. The second coming of Christ could take place at any time	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

- | | | | | |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| d. The earth is going to be destroyed at the end of time | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| e. The earth is not going to be destroyed, but rather is going to be renewed at the end of time | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

Q36. In general, do you think of yourself as...?

- ☐ Very conservative
- ☐ Moderately conservative
- ☐ Middle of the road/neither liberal nor conservative
- ☐ Moderately liberal
- ☐ Very liberal

Q37. In general, do you think of yourself as...?

- ☐ Republican
- ☐ Lean Republican
- ☐ Independent
- ☐ Lean Democrat
- ☐ Democrat
- ☐ Other party (please specify): _____
- ☐ No party/not interested in politics

Q39. What year were you born? (YYYY)

Q40. What is your sex?

- ☐ Female
- ☐ Male

Q41. Are you Hispanic or Latino?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Q42. What is your race? *[select all that apply]*

- ☐ White
- ☐ Black or African American
- ☐ American Indian or Alaska Native
- ☐ Asian
- ☐ Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander
- ☐ Other (please specify): _____