

What specific
action(s) should
christians take
regarding the
environment and
its ...



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The Toulmin model is made up of six elements. The elements include: claim, ground, warrant, backing, rebuttal, and qualification.

Qualification provides the specifications outlining limits to a claim, backing and warrant. Rebuttal represents exceptions due to a claim. This is represented by counter-examples and counter arguments. Backing is offering support to justify a position. Warrant indicates the reasoning that links the grounds to a claim.

The grounds present evidence in support of a claim. Finally, a claim is a position on which an argument is premised. On the basis of this, one gets the feeling that Toulmin was trying to induce the element of morality while arguing in support of something. Christians present one of the largest religious groups in the world.

Christians are known for their pursuit of what they refer to as justice. They thus in this pursuit observe the role of morality on relating to other people. As the biblical doctrine outlines, man was created and put in charge of the rest of the inhabitants of the earth including the environment. Simply put, man was given authority to govern or rule over the environment on the basis of this provision. In the same line, man is expected to obey every guideline handed by the creator.

The environment is of insurmountable value to society as a whole. In the recent past the environment has made news headlines for the wrong reasons. Apparently, the human inhabitants of the environment are playing a very critical role in the destruction of this haven. It is thus obvious that the environment is facing all sorts of threats from the human population.

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However, humanity is equally threatened by these events just as any earthly inhabitants.

Amidst this quagmire, the Christian faith appears to have taken a back seat. I hold the view that Christians should arise and play a role towards enhancing or the setting of initiatives to check the ongoing destruction on the environment. The concerns facing the globe are so diverse in different parts of the globe. Though the environmental issue has taken precedence in the recent past, it has dogged society since time immemorial. The main environmental concerns in the world relate to air contamination, soil contamination, water contamination, solid contamination, solid contamination, etc. A tricky aspect in the campaign against environmental pollution rests on the fact that most activities involved are directly beneficial to the lives of the people. As a Christian, ensuring good quality of life is a desirable attribute. This is grounded on the fact that each individual is entitled to a good life.

If the pursuit of Christianity is to ensure good life and environmental destruction works against this goal, then Christians are bound to take action. Environmental destruction alters the quality of life adversely by affecting various aspects in the life of people. To begin with, environmental pollution has led to global warming. Global warming is behind a host of issues currently affecting the globe. Global warming has led to wars. This may not be expressly captured though it is factual that fights have been fought over scarcity of resources.

Such resources include water, grazing lands, etc. such issues are common in the African continent. Global warming alters the weather patterns leading to erratic rainfall, drought spells, among other things. This reduces the ability of populations especially those from poor backgrounds in reference to raising a livelihood. This prompts such populations to engage in wars with a view to securing the available ones. The Christian doctrine does not envisage war scenarios; the Christians believe that people should live harmoniously. They equally preach this, if they indeed stand for this, then they should lead the line in the fight against global warming. Others may argue that this issue is none of their business.

But I argue that it is in the interests of the Christian faith to address the root causes of these issues as opposed to waging an address on the symptoms. On the basis of the biblical teachings, Christians, as indicated earlier are supposed to take care of the environment and all those animals which inhabit it. Environmental destruction endangers the lives of these species, if the Christians let such species to perish due to environmental destruction; I believe they should be held liable for role abdication. To avoid being caught out in this, Christians should come in the open and raise their voices in support of environmental protection. In this way, the Christians will remain true to the role assigned to humanity at the time of creation. Christians hold a large influence in the world unlike many other religions. This implies that if they chose to call upon the followers towards enforcing conservation measures, they stand to attract unrivaled support. What I make of this rests on the fact Christians hold the potential to change the course of environmental preservation.

Conclusion In this paper I claim that the Christian faith has a role to play in the protection of the environment. This claim is grounded on the idea that Christians have a responsibility given unto them by God which regards caring for the environment and ensuring harmonious living by all human beings. The issue has warranted attention owing to the recent emergence of the environmental issue into prominence regarding its effects on humanity. This position is supported or given back up by the current measures being fronted by the environmentalists and the political class in seeking a solution to counter the problem. Some may argue that the issue is not in the province of religion, an issue I refute on the grounds that Christian has a huge role in this.

The issue finds qualification in the idea that what causes disturbances in life which Christianity is supposed to address rises from environmental aspects. I conclude by observing that Christianity must arise and seek its part in addressing environmental preservation. Towards that end, they would have played a key role in helping society move away from a host of problems facing the globe as a result of environmental destruction.