

The issue of air pollution has really been bothering me lately! Would you say that driving cars could be a sin? I don't ever intend to pollute the air but this question has been flowing through my head like crazy! My job involves more driving than anything else and my dad loves the job that I have and I would be really afraid to ask for a different job. I feel like it would dishonor him if I did. I just don't want to be bothered by it anymore and I think cars are mandatory for the society we live in today, otherwise we'd be living as hermits. I believe it is right to care about the environment, but I also think it's more important to care about my family. What do you think?

God gave Adam the earth to tend to (Ge 2:15) and subdue (Ge 1:28). Men are to care for the earth but not to make an idol of it. The Christian does not worship Mother Earth; rather, he worships Father God and him alone (Ex 20:3-4).

Of course the Christian is the best steward of the planet (Ge 1:27-31); but, as John MacArthur says: "This planet was made disposable by sin (2 Pe 3:7-12)." The world will be made new (Is. 65:17).

Adam was given three commandments: tend to the garden (Ge 1:15), do not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil (Ge 2:17), and be fruitful and multiply (Ge 9:7). Breaking any of these commands would have been disobedience. God is pro-work. He expects men to care for their family and home. The apostle Paul wrote: If any provide not for his own, and especially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel (1 Ti 5:8). Men should care for their aging parents, as well (Ex 20:12).¹ A husband has an added responsibility before God due to his headship position in a family (Ge 3:16). He has been equipped by God for this purpose (Eph. 5:23-32).

A man will leave his father and mother and cleave to his wife (Mt 19:5). He charts his own course so to speak. A man must decide who he is in Christ. Biblical husbands had a variety of characteristics: Adam was a blaming husband (Ge 3:9-12); Isaac was loving (Ge 24:67); Elkanah was sympathetic (1 Sam 1:8-23); Nabal was evil (1 Sam 25:3). Ahab was weak (1 Kin 21:5-16). David was unfaithful (2 Sam. 11:1-27). Job was strong (Jb 2:7-10).² Dennis Prager said, "Caring for a family is what makes a man a man". The bible says that there are benefits to being single as well (1 Cor 7:1, 7, 8,26).

God created man (Ge 1:26, 27) for a purpose (Is. 43:7; Rev. 4:11). The planet will go on until God says that it ceases to go on (2 Pe 3:7-12). The bible says: While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, Cold and heat, winter and summer, and day and night shall not cease (Ge 8:22). God is in control. Men honor him when they love him first and care for their families. Man is not to be a dirt worshipper. He is to worship God with all his: heart, soul, mind and strength (Mk 12:30).

¹ To honor—or to care for and provide for in old age. The root word honor [כבד kbd] to be heavy...[יקר yqr] to be heavy, costly....Jenni, E., & Westermann, C. (1997). Theological lexicon of the Old Testament (p. 590). Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers.

² Thomas Nelson Publishers. (1996). Nelson's quick reference topical Bible index (p. 301). Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson Publishers.