



# VIEWS FROM GOD'S EVEREST - 2

**Romans 8:17-30**  
**A view of nature**

**God's presence is within reach!**





God's creation

Beauty fades...



Helen Little

Nature red in tooth and claw...



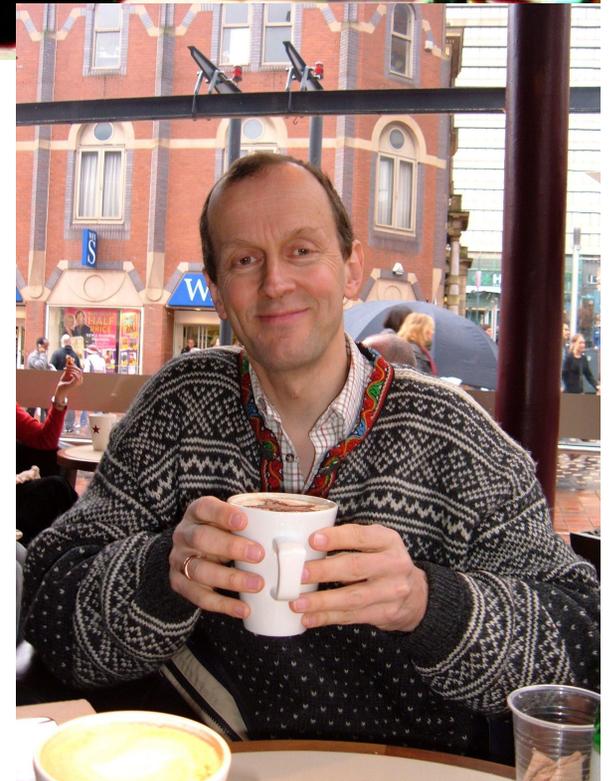
Drought and famine....



Destruction of the environment...



# Mankind's fate of ageing



Our persecuted brothers and  
sisters....



# Natural disasters



# The Creation Mandate

- Genesis 1:26: “let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.”
- Genesis 2:15: “The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it.”

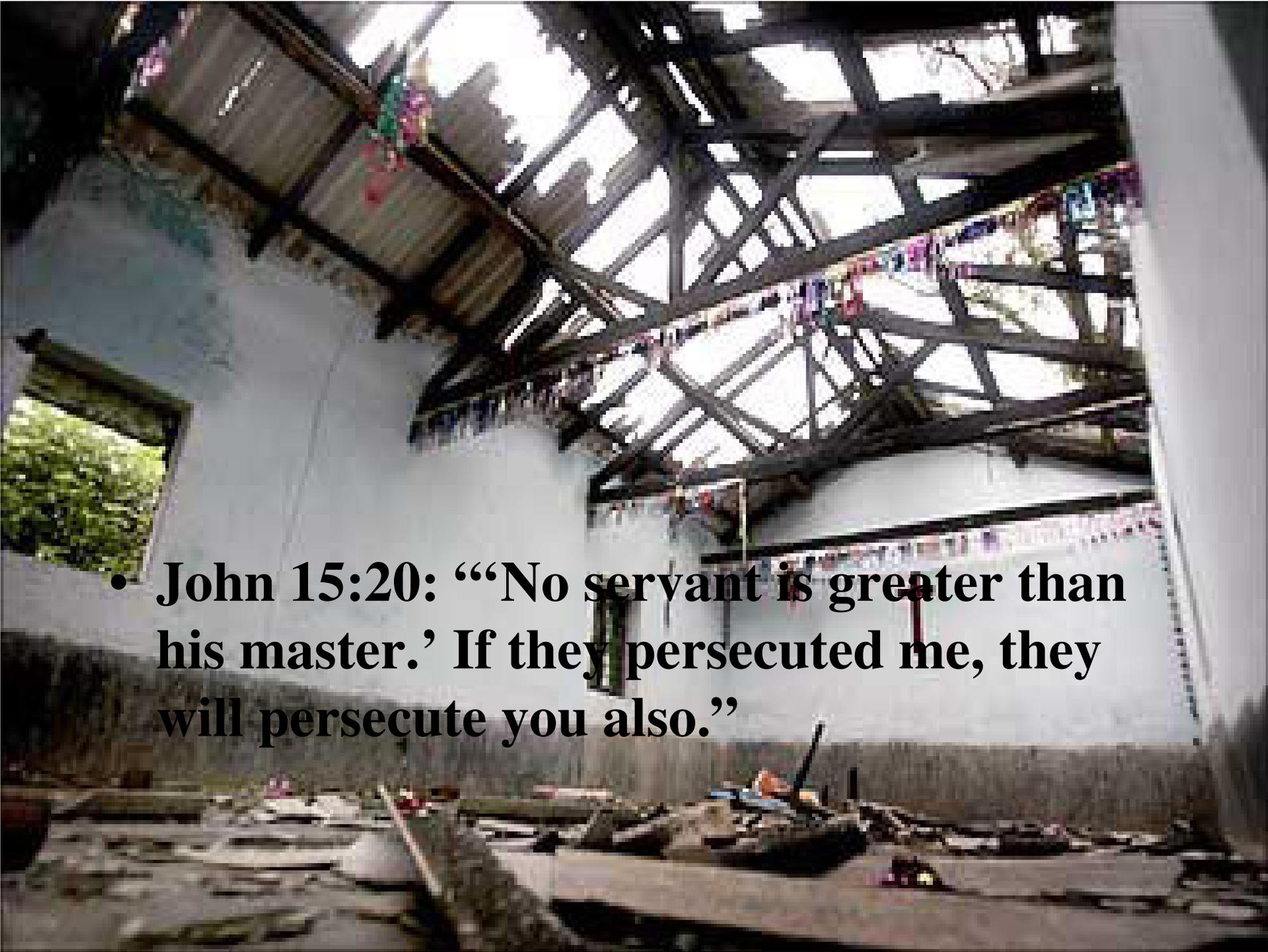
# The Curse of the Fall

- Genesis 3:17-19: “Because you listened to your wife and ate from the tree about which I commanded you, ‘You must not eat of it,’ Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat of it all the days of your life. It will produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat the plants of the field. By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return.”
- 8:20: For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it



# **Our glorious inheritance as children of God**

- **Romans 8:17 “We are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.”**

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- **John 15:20: “No servant is greater than his master.’ If they persecuted me, they will persecute you also.”**

# There is always hope!

- 8:24-25: “For in this hope we were saved.....but if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently.”
- 8:18: “I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.”

# God is in control in our experiences

- 8:28: And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.
- 8:29-30: For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.



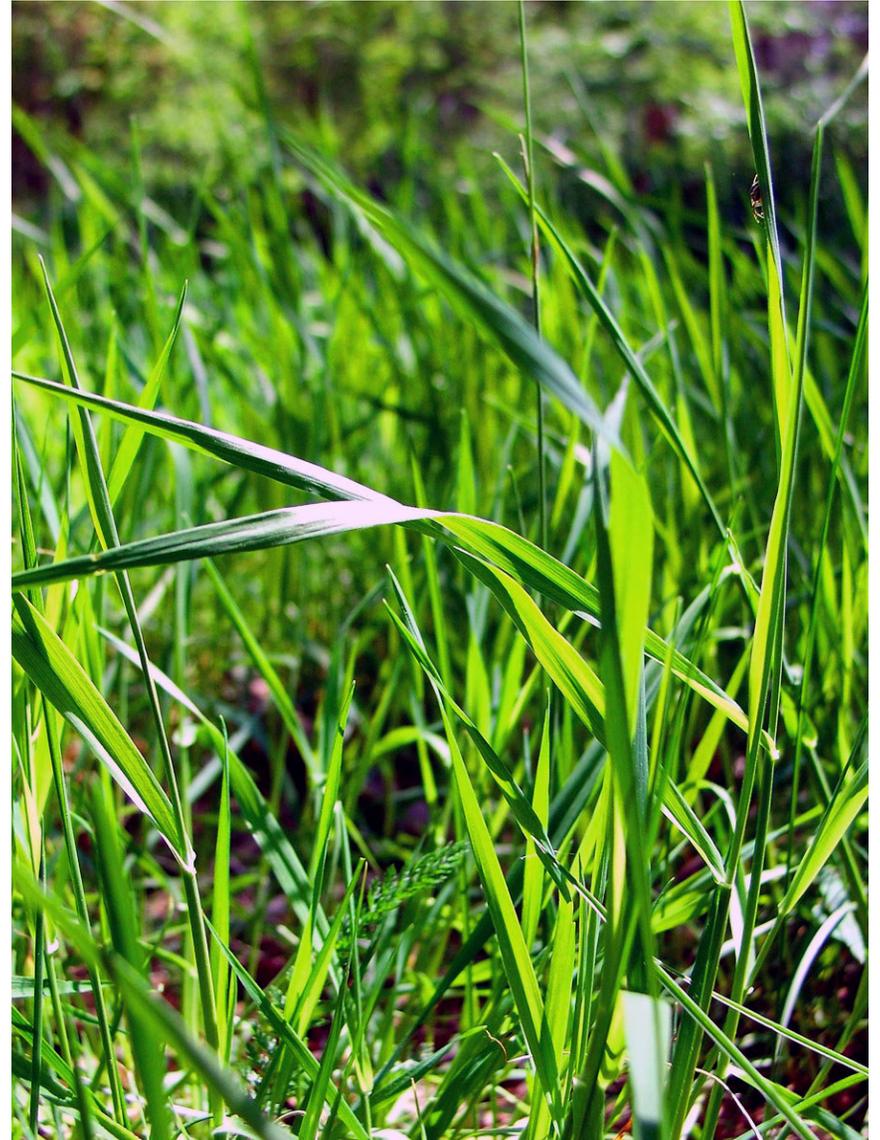
# God is in control in our prayers

- 8:26-27: In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints in accordance with God's will.



# God is in control in our future

- 8:19 “The creation waits in eager expectation for the sons of God to be revealed.”
- 8:21-22 “...that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. “



- 8:23 “Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.”



# A new heaven and a new earth

- Isaiah 11:6 “The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling together; and a little child will lead them”
- Revelation 21:4 “He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.”

# And in the meantime?

- James 2:26 “As the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without deeds is dead.”
- **Action for the suffering church**



- **Action for the victims of natural disasters**



- **Action for nature**
- “To work the garden and take care of it”
- Mark 16:15 “Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation.”



**A ROCHA**



*Christians in Conservation*

God's triumph over death and decay!

