

## ***THE OZONE LAYER IS NOT DISAPPEARING***

It is widely believed that the earth's natural ozone layer is being depleted because of CFCs (chlorofluorocarbons) used in industry which escape into the stratosphere. There the CFCs, the story goes, release chlorine atoms which supposedly destroy the ozone.

In short, we are to believe that stratospheric ozone is disappearing because of human industry. It is often predicted that cancer rates will go up and crops will suffer as harmful solar radiation reaches the earth's surface because of ozone depletion.

None of these popular beliefs is true. A few of these false beliefs are refuted below. **The Christian should remember that God "formed [the earth] to be inhabited" (Isaiah 45:18).**

**Because it is God's will that the earth support life, God will preserve the earth.** All gloom-and-doom reports about the ozone layer should be evaluated in the light of this biblical wisdom. The truth is that -

### **CFC'S DO NOT HARM THE OZONE LAYER**

"CFC's are chemically stable, nontoxic, non-flammable, and nonexplosive. Now ... CFC's are the subject of a worldwide campaign blaming them for destroying the ozone layer. ...

"They tell us that CFC's, molecules much heavier than air, lift themselves up to the stratosphere, 10 to 15 kilometers high. There, because of the energetic solar ultraviolet, they lose the chemical stability that characterizes them within the biosphere and liberate their atoms of chlorine, which, they say, destroys the ozone.

"On the other hand, the millions of tons of chlorine that are belched out annually by the volcanoes of the world (I know of what I speak: for more than 40 years my collaborators and I have been studying volcanic gas emissions) would have but a very secondary effect upon this destruction of the ozone, we are told, compared with CFC's, whose mass of chlorine is but infinitesimal compared with that of volcanic eruptions. The alleged harmlessness of volcanic chlorine is not invoked, it seems to me, simply to better incriminate the chlorine of the CFC's."<sup>1</sup> Furthermore -

### **THE OZONE HOLE IS IN THE WRONG HEMISPHERE**

**"How is it possible that nine-tenths of the CFC's called freons are made and used in the Northern Hemisphere - the hemisphere that is also the more populated and the more industrialized - yet it is in the Southern Hemisphere, which is for the most part uninhabited, that one sees the now famous 'ozone hole'? ...**

"I am quite familiar with [Antarctica], having led four volcanological expeditions there between 1973 and 1979, right

into the heart of the continent -- near latitude 78, to the volcano Erebus, halfway between the magnetic and geographic poles, not simply skirting its edges as did some self-appointed Antarctica 'experts.'

"Since this 'ozone hole' was Antarctic, I was stimulated to get to the bottom of the question -- of the why. The conclusion of my inquiry was that **this hole was most probably in existence at the time of the Shackleton expedition in 1909, and that most probably, it is a natural phenomenon.** Consequently, it has nothing to do with CFC's, which did not exist at that time."<sup>2</sup> It is also true that -

### **THE OZONE SCARE IS NOT BASED ON REAL DATA**

"At Elf Atochem, one of the leading suppliers of CFC substitutes in the world, the company president said, 'It is my understanding that the current theories are developed from modeling a series of chemical reactions that can neither be scientifically proven as occurring in the real world nor reproduced in a laboratory.'<sup>3</sup> As already noted -

### **ATMOSPHERIC CHLORINE IS FROM VOLCANOES, NOT CFC'S**

"One of the authors (Roger Maduro), then a believer in the ozone depletion theory, was gathering evidence to write an article to show that the global warming theory was a scientific fraud.

"In the course of an interview weigh Reid Bryson, head of the Institute for Environmental Studies in Madison, Wisconsin, **the author was startled to be told not to pay attention to the ozone depletion theory because there was a volcano in Antarctica that pumped more chlorine into the atmosphere than did the entire annual production of CFC's on Earth.** If chlorine were indeed responsible for the Antarctic ozone hole, then it would be this volcano that was responsible, not CFC's, said Bryson.

"This information set the author, a geologist by training, on a quest. A few phone calls later, the top volcanologists in the United States had confirmed what Bryson had said. Mt. Erebus in Antarctica pumps more than 1,000 tons of chlorine a day into the atmosphere. **"This meant that Mt. Erebus was lofting more chlorine into the atmosphere in one week, than an entire year's production of CFC's!"<sup>4</sup>** So what about the -

### **TYPICAL SCAREMONGERING PREDICTION ABOUT THE OZONE LAYER**

We hear, for example, that, "The unprecedented assault on the planet's life-support system could have horrendous long-term effects on human health, animal life, the plants that support the food chain, and just about every other strand that makes up the delicate web of nature. And it is too late to prevent the damage, which will worsen for years to come."<sup>5</sup> One rarely admitted motivation behind such false reports is -

## THE PROFIT MOTIVE BEHIND ENVIRONMENTALISM

"The giant chemical corporations, which are slated to make hundreds of billions of dollars selling replacements for the now-banned CFC's, are **working with the environmental movement, which has already made millions of dollars in revenues from the ozone depletion scare.**

"The U.S. environmental groups are able to finance the promotion of environmental hoaxes like ozone depletion through the more than \$500 million they receive a year from the major philanthropic foundations run by this nation's financial elite - Rockefeller, Ford, MacArthur, and other foundations. But money is not the only motive driving the ozone hoax. Behind the actions to ban CFC's - and to cut back on refrigeration - is the Malthusian ideology that the world needs fewer people."<sup>6</sup>

### Conclusions

It is God's will that that the earth be preserved to support the life that He created to be on it. **But it is not man's responsibility to preserve or save the earth; God is doing that.**

**Man's responsibility is to act as a good steward to care for the part of the creation that God has entrusted to his hands** (Genesis 1:28-30; Genesis 9:1-3). For most of us, practicing biblical stewardship means caring for the possessions, the house, and the yard that God has allowed us to own.

But we must take care that our stewardship is not motivated out of fear, for "perfect love casteth out fear." **Stewardship driven by fear is sin.**

In short, the gloom-and-doom fears of ecological collapse denies that God can effectively preserve His own creation, but the Christian must trust in God to take care of us and of all His creation. **We are to be wise stewards, but out of love for our Creator, not out of fear for the future.**

Finally, by denying that God is Creator, and thus cannot preserve His earth, evolution has cleared the way for modern ecological fears. Modern environmental fears are therefore a by-product of the modern belief in evolution. Such fears have no biblical foundation, and as this paper has shown, ozone depletion fears have no scientific basis, either. A similar analysis would show that other fears of ecological disaster are also without scientific foundation.<sup>7</sup>

**References.** Bolding in quotations is added.

- 1 R.A. Maduro and R. Schauerhammer, *The Holes in the Ozone Scare*, 21st Century Science Associates, Washington, 1992; Forward by Haroun Tazieff, former French Secretary of State for the Prevention of Natural and Technological Disasters, pp. ix-x.
- 2 *ibid.*, pp. x-xi.
- 3 *Industrie et Development*, No. 28, June 26, 1991; in Maduro and Schauerhammer, *op. cit.*, pp. xiii-xiv.
- 4 Maduro and Schauerhammer, *op. cit.*, pp. 1-2.
- 5 *Time*, February 17, 1992; in Julian Simon, *The Ultimate Resource 2*, Princeton University Press, 1996, p. 270.
- 6 Maduro and Schauerhammer, *op. cit.*, p. 2.
- 7 See J. Henry, "Environmental Collapse Is Not Happening," <creationconcepts.org>, 2001.