

## Rising Sea Levels

When I was at U Mass (about a million years ago!) I had to read an essay that has stuck in my mind ever since. Even though I wasn't a Christian at the time... far from it... I was struck by the truthful reality of the piece. It was entitled, "Seven Reasons Why a Scientist Must Believe in God". I checked on my Google machine, and couldn't find the original article, but some of it is still here with me.

While I don't recall all seven, among them were things like bees. Apparently, were there no more bees in the world, we'd run out of food in short order; they pollinate, you know.

Another of the seven things was the Moon. Apparently, the moon is just the right size and distance from the Earth for all sorts of things. The Moon keeps Earth from getting pelted with all sorts of space-junk. Apparently, Luna's gravity attracts it away from us and takes the brunt quite harmlessly.

Not only does the Moon protect us from space debris, but its orbit and gravitational effects maintain the Earth's rotation on its axis at 23.5 degrees. Mars, our neighboring planet which is technically within the "habitable range" of the Sun, has no moon. As a result, Mars' rotational axis can shift and has shifted from its current 25 degrees, to 10 degrees or even less. Imagine if the Earth's axis shifted so that the polar ice caps suddenly faced the Sun by another 15 degrees. Yikes! But that doesn't happen; thank you Luna!

The Moon's gravitational pull on the Earth also controls the rate at which the Earth rotates. Imagine Earth spinning at 4 or 5 thousand miles per hour, rather than the 1000 miles per hour rate at which it now spins? It might get a little windy out here, don'tcha think?!

The Luna/Earth relationship is the only such relationship in all of our solar system, and I think it didn't happen by accident. We happen to be the only inhabited planet as well. The last thing I'd like to point out about the Moon is the effect it has on Earth's oceans, specifically the tidal effect; and I mention this for reasons that have to do with a news story I heard the other day, and the title of this essay; rising sea levels.

Climate change legislation is being proposed in Florida because reportedly, rising sea levels have caused ocean waters to creep into drinking water supplies<sup>1</sup>. The climate change legislation will supposedly control man's activities such that the sea levels will stop rising and ruining our drinking water... among myriad other benefits that we'll experience as well.

Now wait a minute just a minute...

We are privileged to live 150 yards from a beach on the Atlantic Ocean. No we're not wealthy and we don't live in an upscale community. We live in a working class community that happens

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1 <http://www.marketplace.org/topics/sustainability/water-high-price-cheap/rising-seas-threaten-south-floridas-drinking-water>

to be on the Atlantic Ocean. For 20 years, I've been looking at the sea level. Believe me (and all my neighbors, whether they agree with my belief in God or not), the sea level has not risen. Sea level is still sea level. But one neighbor who believes in man-caused climate change, says that "the sea level is rising in some places, even if it's not rising here". While Physical Science 101 teaches us that water seeks its own level, let's refer to our old friend Moonie again, for just one more of her/his favors to us.

I have observed that every day, the water at our beach gets sucked away from the shore. Then, after about six hours, when the beach has become almost dry, it begins to come back in toward the shore. About six hours later, it's right back where it started from, and then starts to go out again! I have observed that the water does this twice a day, every day. Why? Luna. And Luna doesn't just do this at our beach, he/she does it **all over the world**; every day; twice a day; non-stop; year after year; century after century; dare I say... "*While the earth remains...*"

Now I will admit, I'm a simple man; and as such, I believe what the Creator has said about climate change and sea levels, and the basic climate of the Earth as we know it.

Well just what did He say?

After the great flood of Noah, about 4 or so thousand years ago, which destroyed all life on Earth (except for Noah and his family, who were in the Ark), God gave His word that He would never again destroy the Earth with a flood.

*I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh. And the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh.* (Gen 9:15 ESV)

Shortly before that promise, God had also given this promise...

*While the earth remains, seed-time and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease.* (Gen 8:22 ESV)

Like I said, I am a simple man, but rather than trust some ridiculous, theoretical computer model, I prefer to believe the scientific facts of the world we know, and the Word of the God who made it for us.

Pastor