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By Aidah Nakku Co Agape Earth Coalition.



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Girls fetching water during school time



BAYAH_01 PHOTOGRAPH

https://www.pexels.com/@bayah_01-photography-2151324779/gallery



Kureng Workx

<https://www.pexels.com/@kureng-workx-2546437/>

African Mother and daughter standing in drought



Najim Kurfi

<https://www.pexels.com/photo/children-collecting-water-in-rural-setting-35691540/>

Two young girls collecting water in a rural area using jerry cans.



Solomon Onyeagoro

<https://www.pexels.com/@solomon-onyeagoro-1030566678/gallery/>



Dark Shade Photos

www.pexels.com

MAPA

MAPA stands for **Most Affected People and Areas**. It is a term used by climate justice and grassroots groups to describe communities and regions that suffer the worst impacts of climate change despite contributing the least to global greenhouse gas emissions. It is sometimes used interchangeably as the "Global South", However MAPA highlights specific vulnerable populations and historical inequalities.



Safari Console.

<https://www.pexels.com/@safari-consoler-3290243/gallery/>

A man maneuvers a loaded bicycle through floodwaters, highlighting resilience.



Darkshade Photos.

<https://www.pexels.com/@darkshadephotos/>

A woman carrying a child on her back in a colorful dress, drawing water in the hot african sunshine.

MAPA

While the effects of climate change are global, the burdens fall disproportionately on the MAPA. Some of these MAPA groups
Some of the MAPA groups include

- a) Global South nations (Uganda, India, Vietnam, the Philippines, etc.) and Pacific Island nations facing extreme weather and sea level rise.
- b) Indigenous (Amazon tribes, Congo Forest pgmy/ Mbuti people) and local communities
- c) Marginalized social groups

BIBLE

Foundationally God is the owner and we are stewards.

"The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it" (Psalm 24:1).

This verse establishes the foundational biblical truth that God is the sole Creator and Absolute Owner of all things. Humanity is not presented as an owner or conqueror, but as a steward.

The Scriptures declare that God created the world and saw that it was "very good" (Genesis 1:31). He entrusted this perfect creation to humanity, not for exploitation, but for faithful stewardship. In Genesis 2:15, we read, "The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it."

The Hebrew words used here are profound:

Abad (to work/serve): Implies careful, productive labor that enhances creation.

Shamar (to keep/guard): Implies protection, preservation, and vigilant care, the same word used later for priests guarding the holy Tabernacle.

This mandate, however, was never given exclusively to men. Genesis 1:27-28 makes it clear that the stewardship commission was given to both male and female simultaneously.

"So God created mankind in His own image, male and female He created them. God blessed them and said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over...'"

Therefore environmental stewardship is a shared, co-equal calling for all humanity, reflecting God's image and serving His creation.

Women and Equally important leaders and contributors

Far from being silent or secondary, women in the Bible held positions of profound spiritual, political, and social leadership. They were instrumental in guiding God's people, advocating for justice, and preserving the covenant community. Below are three pivotal examples:

Deborah. The Judge and Military Leader

"Now Deborah, a prophetess, the wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel at that time. She used to sit under the palm tree of Deborah... and the people of Israel came up to her for judgment." (Judges 4:4-5)

Esther. The Queen Who Saved Her People

"And who knows whether you have not come to the kingdom for such a time as this?" (Esther 4:14)

Esther was a Jewish orphan who became queen of the vast Persian Empire. When a decree was issued to annihilate all Jews, Esther did not remain silent in the safety of the palace. She exercised remarkable courage, strategic wisdom, and political leadership:

Ruth. The Faithful Ancestor of Kings

"But Ruth said, 'Do not urge me to leave you or to return from following you. For where you go I will go, and where you lodge I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God my God.'" (Ruth 1:16)

