

Christian and Islamic Perspectives on Water and Water Ethics

A Model for More Equitable and Sustainable Water Policies



Source - <https://medwayvalley.org/sivers/protecting-the-medway-catchment/>



University of Greenwich

Room J106 Jellicoe Building (Medway Campus)

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With the world's population, having just exceeded 8 billion people, water scarcity resulting from climate change, depletion and pollution of the world's water resources, represents major challenges facing all societies.

Despite the sacredness of water being an inherent part of a variety of cultures and religions, the notion of water ethics is a recent phenomenon, motivated in part by the current environmental and water scarcity concerns.

In both Christian and Islamic faiths, the symbolism of water is represented through various themes and contexts. Both religions have a combined following exceeding 50% of the world's population. This provides an immense opportunity for the two religions to work together to help address and raise awareness of the global water issues and challenges from a religious perspective.

In this presentation, I will present the importance and symbolism of water in Christianity and Islam. I will explore the various references made to water in the Bible, the Qur'an, and their traditions, to show how these can help to change people's attitude towards water. I will show that the environmental teachings found in both religions provides moral imperatives to help shape water policies in the contemporary period. I will show that both religions offer ethical principles for action, by which the global water crisis, can be approached to benefit all people.

Educational Presentation

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