

Water is NOT a “Natural Resource”

It is a **BLESSING** we humans have been assigned to manage for its Creator, and managers never look at their masters' property as their “resources”. Since all water is God's property, we have to focus on **ACCESS** to clean water, **WATER POLLUTION**, and **WATER CONSERVATION**.

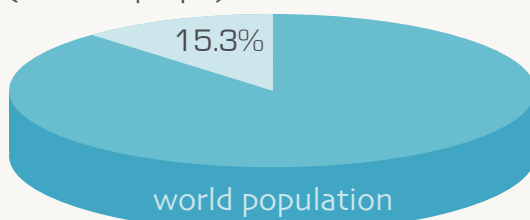
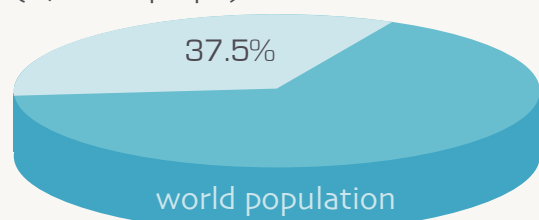
ACCESS

Fair & Compassionate Distribution

The people of the world who have:

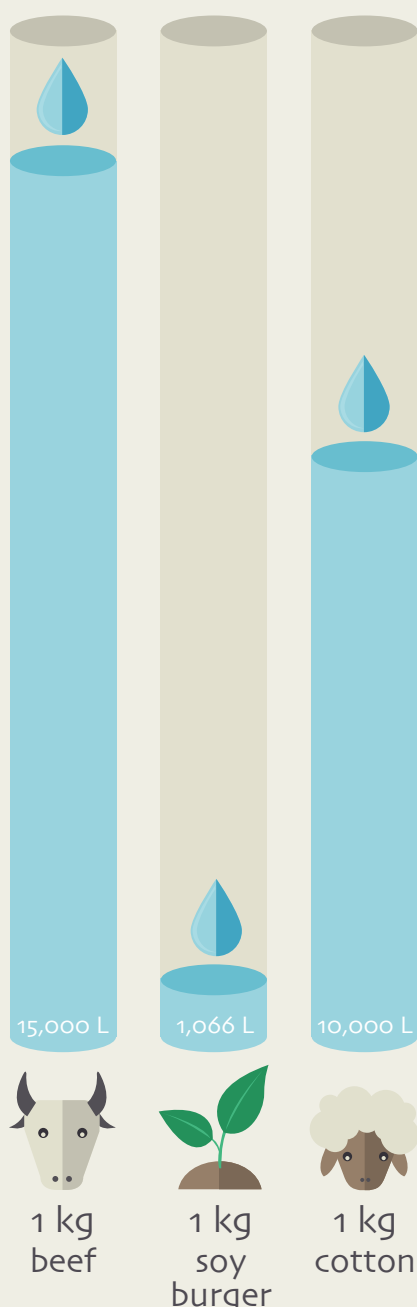
Water scarcity at least 1 month/year
(2.7 billion people)

NO access to clean water
(1.1 billion people)



Every **20 seconds** a child dies from water-borne illness.

In Eastern Africa, more than 25% of the population spends more than **30 minutes** round trip to collect water for their daily household use.



CONSERVATION

Stewardship of Water

Food production and consumer goods use massive amounts of God's water. Liters of water used in the production of food and material is shown to the left.

POLLUTION

Stewardship of Industrial & Agricultural Processes



Runoff containing nitrogen, phosphorus and other fertilizers cause “dead” zones where organisms cannot survive. The largest dead zones

2 million tons of industrial and agricultural wastes are poured into the earth's water sources each day.

are in the **Baltic Sea** and the **Gulf of Mexico**.

Why CARE?

In Matthew 25 Jesus shows that he cares about the poor and thirsty and wants his followers to care as well, “I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink.” God created the world to have plenty of clean water for everybody, but in our current fallen world, not everybody can access clean water. Christians should be acting in line with His original plan and His ultimate purpose for a renewed world.

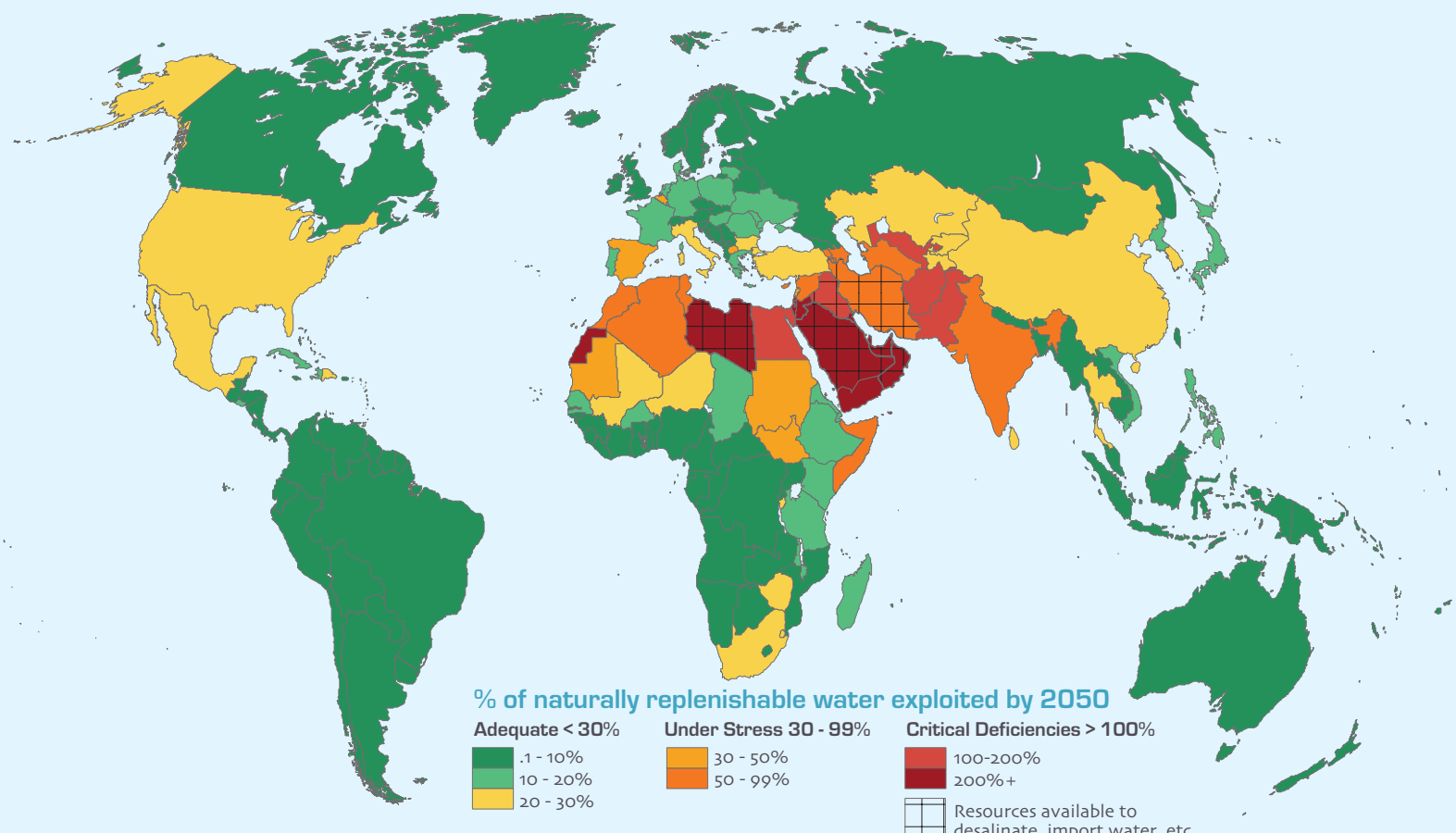
In Genesis 1:28-30, we are assigned to be stewards over God's creation, including concern about water conservation and pollution.

Clean water is one of the most basic blessings God intends for all His creatures, and it is a building block for many other blessings.



The FUTURE of Global Water by 2050

The issues of access and use of water impact many parts of the world – both developed & developing countries.



CALL TO ACTION

Thank the Creator God for water, not Mother Nature. It's not a “natural resource.”



Treat water as God's property. Be mindful of the water implication of products that you use. Don't waste or pollute water.



Do share water. Consider adding a surcharge on your own purchases of bottled water and/or your water bill, donating it to a Christian organization that provides clean water for people who are dying without it.



Sources: *Progress on Sanitation & Drinking-Water: 2010 Update*, World Health Organization, *Waterfootprint.org*, *Water Quality Facts*, National Geographic, *Future of the Global Church*, Johnstone, p. 18.



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