

# Genesis Undone

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In the ending, man really made a mess of the heavens and the earth. The earth was ordered and full of beauty, and light glistened on the surface of the seas. But the spirit of the world was straining to be released.

And man said, “Let us burn coal,” and they burned coal. And man saw the machines and the industry that they were enriching. Man called the combustion Productivity, and the pollution he called Progress. And there was evening and there was morning, the seventh-to-last day.

And man said, “Let us burn oil,” and they burned oil. And man saw the cars and the planes, that they were cool. Man called the transport Necessities, and the emissions he called Acceptable Risk. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth-to-last day.

And man said, “Let us burn gas,” and they burned gas. And man saw the power plants and the boilers, that they were cheap. Man called the heat they generated Comfort, and the electricity he called Convenient. And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth-to-last day.

And Man said, “Let us eat meat and dairy, from high yield industrialised farming practices, for cheap and frequent consumption.” And it was so. The forests were cut and burnt, yielding grassland for cattle and soya for animal feed, each according to a single kind. And man saw the meat, that it was plentiful. And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth-to-last day.

And man said, “Let there be new clothes in our shops every season. And let there be new gadgets to upgrade every six months. And let our products be made with built-in-obsolence, and let us treat them as disposable in any case.” And it was so. And man made two great revenue outcomes – the greater revenue to shareholder profits and the lesser revenue to invest in future growth – and he made the billionaires also. And man saw the overconsumption that it was systemic. And there was evening and there was morning, the third-to-last day.

And man said, “Let us make some half-hearted efforts towards addressing the climate emergency and set long-term targets for future generations to meet.” And it was so. And man set

up committees according to their kinds, and treaties according to their kinds, and reports according to their kind. And man saw their efforts that it was too little, too late. And man saw everything that he had made, and behold, he had made an awful mess. And there was evening and there was morning, the second-to-last day.

Thus the heavens and the earth were ruined, and all the host of them.

On the last day, God looked down in sorrow and in anger at all that had been done. And God arose from his Sabbath rest to reclaim the world he created and to remake all that had been undone.