



Written by [Gary Benoit](#) on February 3, 2020

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## False Predictions On Catastrophic Climate Change

*Before claims of catastrophic global warming became in vogue, climate “experts” warned of a cooling trend leading to a new ice age. The compilation below documents some of the failed climate predictions regarding both global cooling and global warming. Obviously ominous warnings regarding the latter are being issued right up to the present day — perhaps more frequently and stridently than ever. Yet enough time has now gone by to completely discredit earlier global-warming claims.*

*The failure of the particular predictions we have compiled in the global-warming section is self-evident. For example, we all know that the Arctic ice cap has never disappeared during the summer months, despite Al Gore’s claim that this could have happened as early as 2013. Moreover, at present, there is no solid evidence that recent claims of impending climate catastrophe are any more likely to be accurate than past claims.*

### Global Cooling

“The world could be as little as 50 or 60 years away from a disastrous new ice age, a leading atmospheric scientist predicts.

Dr. S. I. Rasool of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and Columbia University says that:

- ‘In the next 50 years,’ the fine dust man constantly puts into the atmosphere by fossil fuel-burning could screen out so much sunlight that the average temperature could drop by six degrees.
- If sustained over ‘several years’ — ‘five to 10,’ he estimated — ‘such a temperature decrease could be sufficient to trigger an ice age!’”

— *Washington Post*, “U.S. Scientist Sees New Ice Age Coming” July 9, 1971

“However widely the weather varies from place to place and time to time, when meteorologists take an average of temperatures around the globe they find that the atmosphere has been growing gradually cooler for the past three decades. The trend shows no indication of reversing. Climatological Cassandras are becoming increasingly apprehensive, for the weather aberrations they are studying may be the harbinger of another ice age.”

— *Time*, “Another Ice Age?” June 24, 1974

“The cooling has already killed hundreds of thousands of people in poor nations. It has already made food and fuel more precious, thus increasing the price of everything we buy. If it continues, and no strong measures are taken to deal with it, the cooling will cause world famine, world chaos, and probably world war, and this could all come by the year 2000....

What I discovered while writing this book, and what you will find while reading it, is more dramatic than any fantasy of the emotions. It is cold fact: the global cooling presents humankind with the most important social, political, and adaptive challenge we have had to deal with for ten thousand years.” (Emphasis in original.)

— Lowell Ponte, *The Cooling*, 1976

*Ponte’s book, which was considered a serious and important work when it was published, included a*



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*foreword by U.S. Senator Claiborne Pell, who at the time was chairman of the Senate Subcommittee on Oceans and International Environment, and a preface by the widely acclaimed Professor Reid A. Bryson (quoted below). The latter concluded his preface by saying of the book: "I hope that all will read it as a serious and thoughtful analysis of a real and pressing problem."*

"There is very important climatic change going on right now.... It is something that, if it continues, will affect the whole human occupation of the earth — like a billion people starving. The effects are already showing up in rather drastic ways."

— Dr. Reid Bryson, as quoted in *Fortune*, "Ominous Changes in the World's Weather," February 1974  
*Bryson, director of the Institute for Environmental Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, who was warning above about global cooling, was once a widely quoted expert on the subject of climate change. In fact, to help establish his stature in the field, the Fortune article quoted another expert, former president of the (British) Royal Meteorological Society Kenneth Hare, saying, "Bryson is the most important figure in climatology today."*

"The central fact is that after three quarters of a century of extraordinary mild conditions, the earth's climate seems to be cooling down. Meteorologists disagree about the cause and extent of the cooling trend, as well as over its specific impact on local weather conditions. But they are almost unanimous in the view that the trend will reduce agricultural productivity for the rest of the century. If the climatic change is as profound as some of the pessimists fear, the resulting famines could be catastrophic."

— *Newsweek*, "The Cooling World," April 28, 1975

"Most scientists agree that today's ice movement may reflect a worldwide cooling trend, but their explanations vary widely."

— *National Geographic*, "What's Happening to Our Climate," November 1976

"During the last 20 to 30 years, world temperature has fallen, irregularly at first but more sharply over the last decade."

— U.S. National Science Board, 1974, as quoted in *National Geographic*, "What's Happening to Our Climate," November 1976

"Climatologists now blame those recurring droughts and floods on a global cooling trend. It could bring massive tragedies for mankind."

— *Fortune*, "Ominous Changes in the World's Weather," February 1974

## **Global Warming**

"A senior U.N. environmental official says entire nations could be wiped off the face of the Earth by rising sea levels *if the global warming trend is not reversed by the year 2000*. [Emphasis added.]

Coastal flooding and crop failures would create an exodus of 'eco-refugees,' threatening political chaos, said Noel Brown, director of the New York office of the U.N. Environment Program, or UNEP.

He said governments have a 10-year window of opportunity to solve the greenhouse effect before it goes beyond human control.

As the warming melts polar icecaps, ocean levels will rise by up to three feet, enough to cover the



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Maldives and other flat island nations, Brown told The Associated Press in an interview on Wednesday. Coastal regions will be inundated; one-sixth of Bangladesh could be flooded, displacing a fourth of its 90 million people. A fifth of Egypt's arable land in the Nile Delta would be flooded, cutting off its food supply, according to a joint UNEP and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency study."

— Associated Press, "U.N. Predicts Disaster if Global Warming Not Checked," June 29, 1989

*Considering that the "window of opportunity" for reversing global warming closed by the year 2000 — two decades ago — according to this UN-sourced story, the UN's dire predictions of climate catastrophe were obviously inaccurate, to say the least.*

"Last September 21 [2007], as the Northern Hemisphere tilted away from the sun, scientists reported with unprecedented distress that the North Polar ice cap is 'falling off a cliff.' One study estimated that it could be completely gone during summer in less than 22 years. Another new study, to be presented by U.S. Navy researchers later this week, warns it could happen in as little as 7 years."

— Al Gore, Nobel Peace Prize acceptance speech, Oslo, December 10, 2007

*The Gore-referenced study warning that the Arctic ice cap could disappear in the summer in as "little as 7 years" meant as soon as 2014. Then, on December 13 of the following year, Gore warned in a speech in Germany, "The entire North polar ice cap may well be completely gone in five years" — that is, 2013. Worse for him, analysis of satellite data in 2019 by the Committee for a Constructive Tomorrow (CFACT) showed that "the average annual coverage of sea ice has been essentially the same since satellite observations began in 1981."*

"Britain's winter ends tomorrow [March 21, 2000] with further indications of a striking environmental change: snow is starting to disappear from our lives.

Sledges, snowmen, snowballs and the excitement of waking to find that the stuff has settled outside are all a rapidly diminishing part of Britain's culture, as warmer winters — which scientists are attributing to global climate change — produce not only fewer white Christmases, but fewer white Januaries and Februaries....

According to Dr. David Viner, a senior research scientist at the climatic research unit (CRU) of the University of East Anglia, within a few years winter snowfall will become 'a very rare and exciting event.'

'Children just aren't going to know what snow is,' he said."

— *The Independent* (British newspaper), "Snowfalls Are Now Just a Thing of the Past," March 20, 2000

*Of course, despite the title, which suggested that snowfalls would be a "thing of the past" as early as two decades ago, Britain has continued to experience snowfalls.*

"Scientists in the US have presented one of the most dramatic forecasts yet for the disappearance of Arctic sea ice.

Their latest modelling studies indicate northern polar waters could be ice-free in summers within just 5-6 years."

— BBC, "Arctic Summers Ice-Free 'by 2013,'" December 12, 2007

"The small alpine glaciers present today started forming about 7,000 years ago and reached their



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maximum in size and number around 1850, at the end of the Little Ice Age. They are now rapidly shrinking due to human-caused climate change. Computer models indicate the glaciers will all be gone by the year 2020.”

— Former sign at the St. Mary Visitor Center at Glacier National Park

*CNN reported on January 8, 2020, that “in 2017, the park was told by the [U.S. Geological Survey] that the complete melting off of the glaciers was no longer expected to take place so quickly due to changes in the forecast model.” However, “tight maintenance budgets made it impossible for the park to immediately change the signs,” though “the most prominent placards, at St. Mary Visitor Center, were changed last year.”*

“Millennials and people and you know Gen Z and all these folks that come after us are looking up, and we’re like, ‘The world is going to end in 12 years if we don’t address climate change, and your biggest issue is — your biggest issue is how are we gonna pay for it?’”

— U.S. Representative Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, New York City speech, January 21, 2019

*Presumably Representative Ocasio-Cortez was being serious when she made the above claim. Undoubtedly, millions of her fellow global-warming alarmists thought she was being serious — and accepted what she said as an accurate assessment based on the latest scientific evidence. Yet consider the following tweet from AOC expressing incredulity that her (and others’) “dry humor + sarcasm” would be taken literally by Republicans:*

“This is a technique of the GOP, to take dry humor + sarcasm literally and ‘fact check’ it.

Like the ‘world ending in 12 years’ thing, you’d have to have the social intelligence of a sea sponge to think it’s literal.

But the GOP is basically Dwight from The Office so who knows.”

— Representative Ocasio-Cortez tweet, May 12, 2019 *Talk about backpedaling!*



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