

## Enough is enough: Faith Reflections

*from Scripture, Catholic Social Teaching and Rowan Williams*

'The current crisis obliges us to re-plan our journey, to set ourselves new rules and to discover new forms of commitment, to build on positive experiences and to reject negative ones. The crisis thus becomes an opportunity for discernment, in which to shape a new vision for the future.'

*Caritas in veritate, 2009 (21)*

'The plight of the earth demonstrates that an individualistic materialism cannot be allowed to drive out responsibility and love, and that care for those in need, and respect for the rights of future generations, are necessary to sustain a proper life for all.'

*The Call of Creation  
Catholic Bishops' Conference of England*

'the creation stories of Genesis 1 and 2 see the creation of humanity as quite specifically the creation of an agent, a person, who can care for and protect the animal world, reflecting the care of God himself who enjoys the goodness of what he has made.'

*Rowan Williams*

'The apostle Paul describes his own experience - "Not that I am referring to being in need; for I have learned to be content with whatever I have. I know what it is to have little, and I know what it is to have plenty."

*Philippians 4.11*

'Land will not be sold absolutely, for the land belongs to me, and you are only strangers and guests of mine.'

*Leviticus 25:23*

'Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment; for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it; but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these.'

*1 Timothy 6.6*

'He who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with his own hands, that he may have something to share with those in need.'

*Ephesians 4:28*

'Is not the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke?'

*Isaiah 58.6*

'What is needed is an effective shift in mentality which can lead to the adoption of *new life-styles* "in which the quest for truth, beauty, goodness and communion with others for the sake of common growth are the factors which determine consumer choices.'

*Caritas in veritate, 2009 (51)*

'Man thinks that he can make arbitrary use of the earth, subjecting it without restraint to his will, as though the earth did not have its own requisites and a prior, God-given purpose, which man indeed can develop but must not betray. Instead of carrying out his role as a co-creator with God in the work of creation, man sets himself up in the place of God and thus ends up in provoking a rebellion on the part of nature, which is more tyrannised than governed by him.'

*Centesimus Annus, 1991 (37)*

'one of the underlying, evasive, moral and imaginative questions that arises in thinking about climate change and the wider environmental agenda is... this ingrained tradition of behaving as if we didn't belong, as if we were not part of an interactive system, as if we were brains on stalks.'

*Rowan Williams.*

'The first believers "[sold] their possessions and goods, [and] gave to anyone as he had need.'

*Acts 2.42.*

'Far from being self-contained individuals, we are, in truth, always mutually dependent. We are made for one another... We are not isolated individuals who happen to live side by side, but people really dependent on one another, whose fulfilment lies in the quality of our relationships.'

*Choosing the Common Good, 2010*

- ◆ **Underline any word or phrase that speaks to you.**
- ◆ **How does the passage shape your idea of what it means to flourish?**