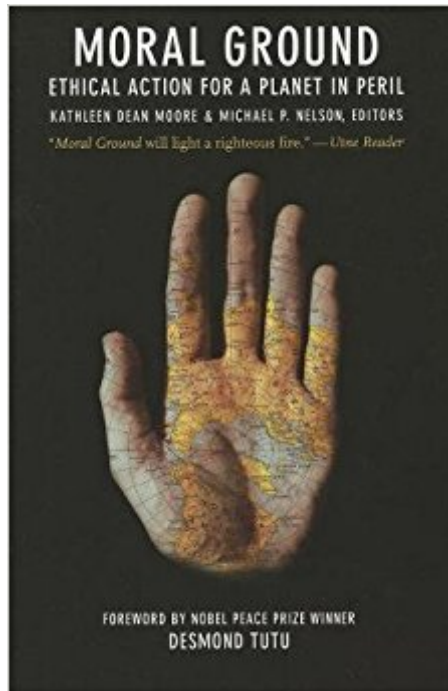




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Moral Ground: Ethical Action For A Planet In Peril



Synopsis

Moral Ground brings together the testimony of over 80 visionaries — theologians and religious leaders, scientists, elected officials, business leaders, naturalists, activists, and writers — to present a diverse and compelling call to honor our individual and collective moral responsibilities to our planet. In the face of environmental degradation and global climate change, scientific knowledge alone does not tell us what we ought to do. The missing premise of the argument and much-needed centerpiece in the debate to date has been the need for ethical values, moral guidance, and principled reasons for doing the right thing for our planet, its animals, its plants, and its people. This book encourages a newly discovered, or rediscovered, commitment to consensus about our ethical obligation to the future and why it's wrong to wreck the world.

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Customer Reviews

Kathleen Dean Moore is Distinguished Professor of Philosophy at Oregon State University. She is the author or editor of many books including *Wild Comfort*, *The Pine Island Paradox*, *Rachel Carson*, *Holdfast*, *Riverwalking*, and countless journal and magazine articles. She serves on the board of directors for Orion Society and Island Institute. She lives in Corvallis, Oregon. Michael P. Nelson is Associate Professor of Environmental Ethics at Lyman Briggs College at Michigan State University. He is author or editor of several books including *The Wilderness Debate Rages On* and *The Great New Wilderness Debate*. He lives in Bell Oak, Michigan. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

I've had this book for almost 4 years, and I've just finished it. So first of all, don't expect a barn burner of a book! *Moral Ground: Ethical Action For A Planet in Peril*, edited by Kathleen Moore and Michael Nelson, is a collection of short essays, some published elsewhere, that deal with the theme of OUR responsibility, both locally and globally, to protect the planet and the life forms that live upon it. You'll recognize a number of the authors (The Dalai Lama, EO Wilson, Barack Obama, Holmes Rolston III, Dave Foreman, David Quammen, Robert Michael Pyle, Ursula K. Le Guin, Bill McKibben, Thomas Friedman, Peter Singer, Carl Safina, Wendell Berry, Terry Tempest Williams), and I have no idea who others are. Luckily, on the first page of every essay, there is a short bio of the author. The overall question posed to the authors (or pulled out of previously published essays) was "Do we have a moral obligation to take action to protect the future of a planet in peril?" The essays are then organized thusly: 1. Yes, for the survival of humankind. 2. Yes, for the sake of the children. 3. Yes, for the sake of the Earth itself. 4. Yes, for the sake of all forms of life on the planet. 5. Yes, to honor our duties of gratitude and reciprocity. 6. Yes, for the full expression of human virtue. 7. Yes, because all flourishing is mutual. 8. Yes, for the stewardship of God's creation. 9. Yes, because compassion requires it. 10. Yes, because justice demands it. 11. Yes, because the world is beautiful. 12. Yes, because we love the world. 13. Yes, to honor and celebrate the Earth and Earth systems. 14. Yes, because our moral integrity requires us to do what is right. Each section ends with a discussion of actions, and each section begins with a summary. Some of these essays will resonate with you. Others will not. I think it would be difficult to read all of these over a semester (remember... it took me almost 4 years!), but I encourage a reader to read the essays written by authors you respect, read the essays in the sections that speak to you, and skim the rest. For me, I had never heard of James Garvey, but his essay ("Climate change is a moral problem for you, right now") was powerful. Likewise, author Steve Vanderheiden introduced me to the concept of "liability based in contributory fault."

I bought this book for an environmental-related college class. I read excerpts from most of the book and found parts of it interesting while others were downright bizarre. The book itself is a collection of short stories about climate change and environmentalism. It served the purposes of my class but I did not care for it too much.

A book of compiled essays on the TOPIC; written by people I've read, and others... Important reading for today's world! Also read Pope Francis's Encyclical on Caring for the Earth as an aid to

understanding the world situation as best I can. Book was in great condition, well packed. Arrived when promised.

dozens of essays that say the same thing. BUT each one is individual enough to touch someone's heart. not great for reading straight through but AMAZING for getting individual perspectives.

This is a wonderful compilation of well-reasoned and thought provoking viewpoints concerning the state of our earth. Each contribution adds a fresh facet to the bigger picture. The common denominator is the sorry state of our planet. But the sum of the parts somehow goes beyond that sad reality. Regretfully, I have only recently begun to contemplate these issues. After reading this book, I am challenged to stop taking earth for granted. And I am inspired to more carefully evaluate my actions as they relate to a bigger perspective than self. I am grateful to the editors and to each contributor.

To be honest we are far far past the point of saving the world out of ethical concern, and debating its merits is therefore a bit quaint. This book states that pretty directly at points and gives some good arguments about real physical reasons that we must save the planet. It also gives great perspective into how western/American values are deeply flawed and gives good perspective on what would be better values.

The world needs this book and I hope it gets translated and becomes popular to everyone. I agree with what it says that we have to take action right now to not further damage this planet or the life that is on it including ours. God wants us to act as God set this whole thing up to being with. Onward to Zion 2013.

I bought this book as an audible book read it was so impress, I shared it with my children, all adults, and ended up buying myself one because there is so much in this book that is so relevant.

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