

20th anniversary of the Dozentenforum

Lecture by **Professor Sir John Houghton**

God, Science and Global Warming



ETH Zürich-Zentrum, Rämistr. 101

Hauptgebäude, Hörsaal HG E3

Tuesday October 20th, 18.15 - 19.45

God, Science and Global Warming

In December 2009, the world's nations will meet in Copenhagen to negotiate new targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and a timetable for action. There is compelling evidence that the world is warming, and that the climate is changing largely because of human activities. Increased global temperatures make climate extremes more likely, and an increase in the frequency and intensity of floods, droughts and storms together with sea level rise of up to a metre a century will severely affect billions of people in many parts of the world and lead to widespread loss of species. On this basis many view the Copenhagen meeting as the most important meeting the world has ever seen. But is there the will to take action with the degree of urgency required? As humans made in the image of the Creator God, the science we undertake is His science, and in the context of Global Warming it helps us fulfill our responsibility as stewards of God's creation.



About Professor Sir John Houghton

Sir John Houghton CBE, FRS, is a former Professor of Atmospheric Physics at Oxford University. He was Director-General and Chief Executive of the UK Meteorological Office (1983-1991) and is founder of the Hadley Centre. He served as Chairman of the Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution (1992-1998) and chaired the Scientific Panel of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) from its inception in 1988 until 2002. In 2006 he was awarded the Japan Prize „for his pioneering research on atmospheric structure and composition, based on satellite observation technology and his promotion of international assessments of climate change“.

He is the author of „The Physics of Atmospheres“ (3rd edn, CUP, 2002), „Global Warming: the Complete Briefing“ (4th edn, CUP, 2009) and „The search of God, can science help?“ (Lion, 1994).

The Dozentenforum of the University and ETH of Zurich provides a platform for all academics and scientists to discuss key contemporary issues from a Christian perspective.

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