The heart of the Solution Putting God back into the center of Africa's environmental and agricultural crisis

Matt 28: 19-20

Duet 11: 8-21

Col 1:16

I Cor 10:31





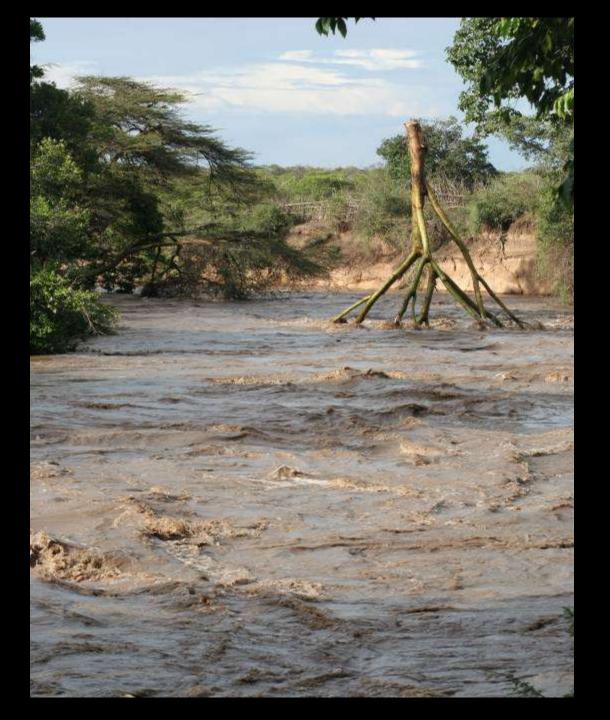


Grasslands in Kenya as God made them



Grasslands today











Only elephants should wear ivory!



What is at the heart of our agricultural and environmental problems?

• Farmers in Garissa....and Kijabe

Farmers in Narok

Farmers in Ndeiya

Season of harvest for farmers - and prostitutes

Bumper crop on the wheat farms of Narok brings mixed fortunes to families

By JULIUS SIGE!

hen Sempele ele Kisotu harvested wheat on his 50-acre farm at Nulele in Narols North district last year, he shought he had kissed poverty goodbye. Only a few months earlier he had been advised to sell his cattle and switch to wheat farming, said to be more hugative.

After paying off his debts, he pocketed Sh500,000 and swaggered to a matatuheading to Narok town to slake his thirst with a few drinks. No sconer had he allighted in town than he met some charming and scantily dressed women who sweettalked him as he walked to a pub. When he came to, he was lying in a dingy hotel room without a cent in his

Today Mzee Kisotu can be found wandering around Nuisele Trading Centre

talking to himself.

He is just one of the many wheat farmers who fall prey to commercial sex work ers who descend on shopping centres in this wheat-growing region during the harvest seasons. The women come from Uganda, Tanzania, Eldoret, Kericho, Natrobi and Mombasa. With some 80,000 hectares under the crop, Narok is the largest wheat-producing area in East Africa. And while this has brought some development to the area, it has also brought pain and tears.

The situation is particularly bad this season due to earnings from the bumper erop. Local police chief Charles Okwaya. has put farmers on high alort.

"This sesson the crime rate is very high," he said, "Parmers are being robbed. Frand cases in banks concerning take banker's cheques and currencies are nampant."

Seasonal brothels

Ibrahim Ishmael of the NGO Impact Kenya Youth Initiative says seasonal brothels sprout during the harvest season in Narok.

There are commercial sex workers who come during harvesting season," he said. "They invade Kericho during tea bonus season in November and throng here (Narok) in July. In September they will be elsewhere."

The prostitutes, he said, make advance visits to the area during the planting season to gather information on farmers' lifestyles and who is planting wheat on how much land. It is believed that the women

'Crime rate is very high; farmers are being robbed, and fake bankers' cheques are rampant," - Police chief



identify easy prey during these visits. Owners and renters of combine harvesters are also prime targets.

In Narok, Ntulele, Ololulung'a and Mulot towns hotel rooms are converted into temporary brothels on short notice. and tenants kicked out to make way for the high-paying "tourists"

'Their rooms are even paid for in advance and at a much higher rate," said David ole Sankok, chairman of the Narok Central Business Association.

Local residents say police have carried out several swoops to arrest the prostitutes who are set free almost immediately.

"They (the prostitutes) grease the bands

of unscrupulous police officers and get released quickly," said a businesswoman at Ololulung's who requested not to be named. Smooth operators

Musa Langut, a counsellor, describes the prostitutes as smooth operators who do not make their prey suspicions and who are often educated enough to understand and manipulate the farmers' psychology. Women in the wheat-growing areas have threatened to demonstrate to protest what they consider the anatching of their men by the sex workers

One woman in Mulot told the Sunday Nation that since her husband ingressed their wheat on the family's 20-sery farm two weeks ago, he had not come home.

"He has left us loangry, and our children are out of school for lack of fees," she said. The prostitutes are also reported to work closely with thags to rob farmers. One old man from Nkareta committed suicide

500,000

The amount of shillings one farmer lost to prostitutes in Narok last year.

after he was waylaid by unicoown people and robbed of Sh1 million as guopoint. He is said to have been seen in the company of a prostatute earlier.

According to the outgoing Narok South District Medical Officer Dr Gerishon Abalodwa, HIV infections more than don-

ble during bryest time.

wheat harvest.

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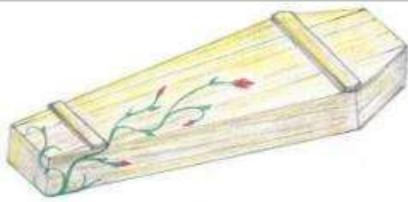
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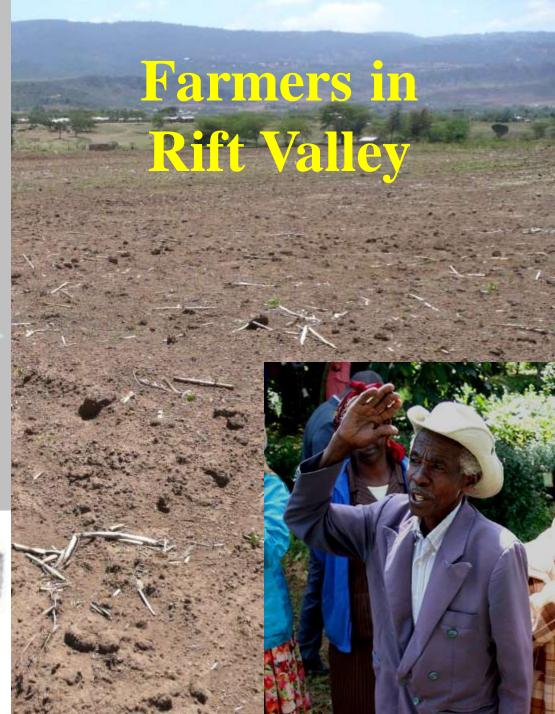
David Mpathony, chairman of the Naroli. Farmers Association, has neged his colleagues to open bank accounts and save their money instead of spiashing out on golddiggers.

"This is money that is hard to come by. When drought does not wipe out the entire crop, there is wheat rust; when you escape these two, there are the poor goaln prices," he said.

A man reportedly committed suicide last year in Maai Mahiu after his 100-acre farm under wheat was attacked by Ug99. a particularly virulent variety of stem rust that wiped out his entire crop, causing a Sh5.6 million loss.







What is at the heart of our agricultural problems?

It is a problem of the heart!

We need to plant a seed into the hearts of people that will germinate & produce much fruit!

A sustainable and healthy agricultural system must be built upon a firm foundation...

The planting and cultivation of biblical and moral ideals in relation to agriculture is critical

It is more important than seed, new crop varieties, fertilizer, or agricultural techniques

What we have

- · Plenty of knowledge, books, research
 - Plenty of practical solutions

What we do not have

• Plenty of faithful and dedicated people who are committed to putting those solutions into practice

Planting a passion

into 100's of thousands of people

to pursue

excellence

in all things

A <u>vision</u> for restoring degraded agricultural landscapes

A conviction to honor God in every process related to agriculture

Planting a passion

into 100's of thousands of people

to pursue

excellence

in all things

A firm
commitment to
implement the
most sustainable
practices at
all times

A <u>dedication</u> to love and serve our fellow man

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Col 1:16

I Cor 10:31

Deuteronomy 11

"It is a land the Lord your God cares for; the eyes of the Lord your God are continually on it from the beginning of the year to its end."

Gen 1:31 Gen 2:15
The Good Shepherd

Noah The Promised land New Heaven & Earth

Deut. 11 – Be a disciple and make disciples!

Fix these words of mine in your hearts and minds; tie them as symbols on your hands, and bind them on your foreheads.

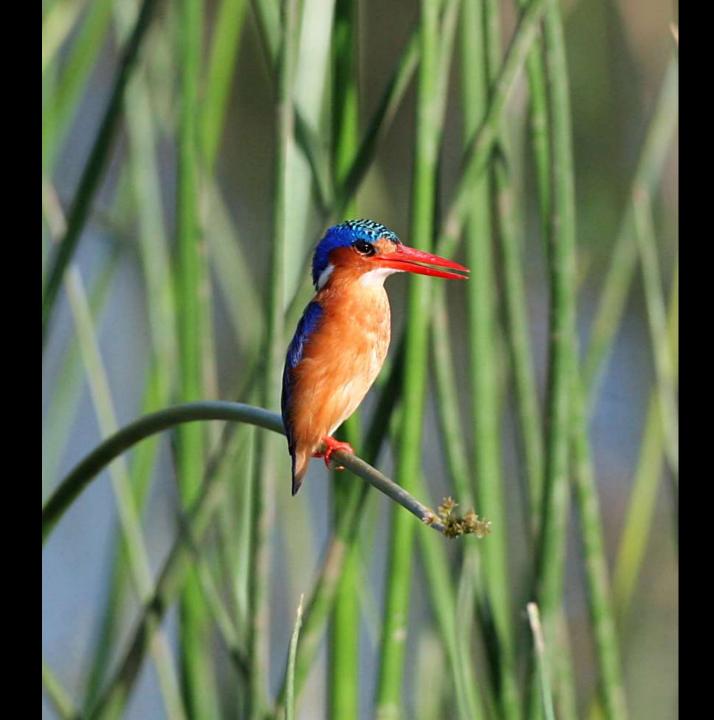
Teach them to your children, talking about them when you when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.

Deut. 11 – Be a disciple and make disciples!

A sample of biblical & moral principles we should be teaching and talking about...

...all of the time!











Col 1:16

"All things were created by him and for him."







"So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God."

Gen 1:26 & 2:15

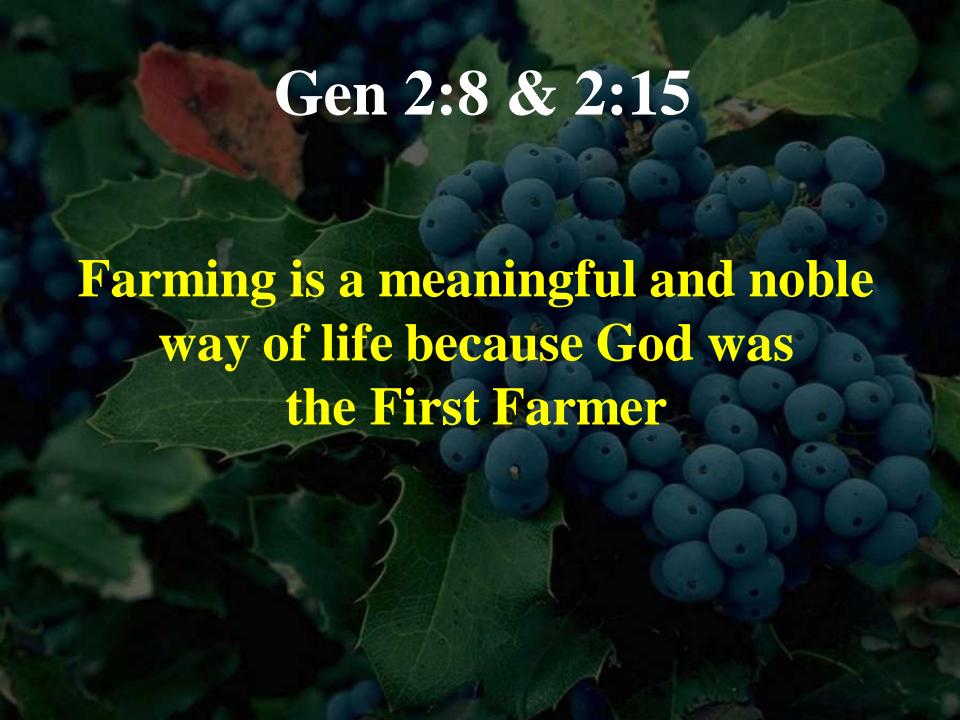
We care for creation because this was God's design for mankind from the beginning...

...and our dominion over the earth was meant to be Christ-like

Romans 12:2

We care for creation because it is the good, pleasing, and perfect will of God

God, what is Your will for us as Your people living on this part of Your creation?





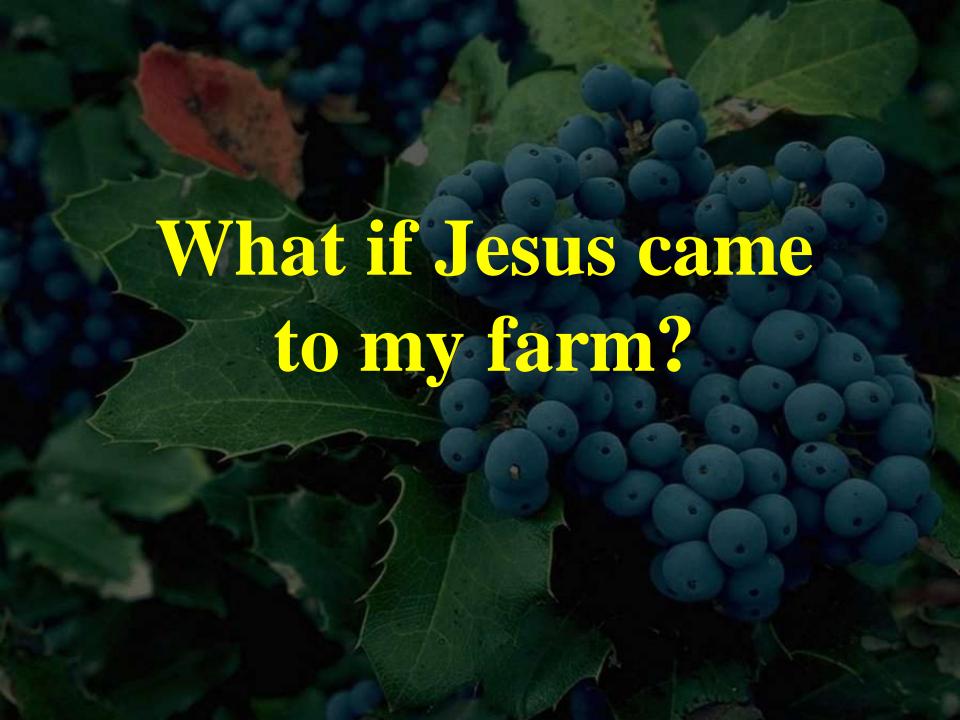
Matt 25: 14-21 Parable of the Talents

We bring great glory to God...

...and demonstrate much love for our neighbor...

...when our agricultural stewardship improves the fruitfulness of the land





John 14:1-3

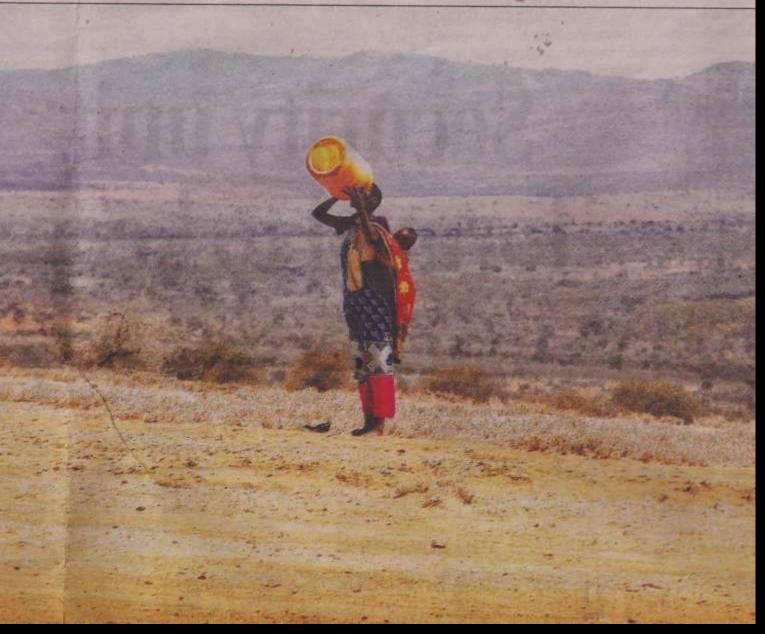
I am going to prepare a place for you.

"But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness."

II Peter 3:13

We all long to go home...
...to a place of rest, safety, acceptance, love, fellowship and comfort.

Solitude on the plains



Christlike dominion...

- Respects the Owner of the vineyard (Parable of Tenants, Matt 21:33-41)
- Provides for the poor and needy (Parable of Sheep and Goats, Matt 25:31-46)
- Enhances creation's bounty (Parable of Talents, Matt 25:14-23)
- Rules over creation with a commitment to righteousness and justice

John 6: 9-13
Feeding of the
5,000

Godly agriculture is not wasteful



2014: Burkina Faso & Rwanda ban plastic bags

• 1 in 3 cattle deaths in Burkina Faso due to the ingestion of plastic bags

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