



Your Holiness,

Job 12:7

**“But now ask the beasts, and let them teach you;
And the birds of the heavens, and let them tell you.**

As you prepare for COP26 you will be focussed I am sure on the need to reduce, and finally eliminate, the damage we humans are doing to the planet that we are so fortunate to call home, and which was given to our stewardship.

Much talk will be of the emissions caused by the burning of fossil fuels, but I am coming to COP26 and I will be trying to teach another lesson.

It's an important issue that is incredibly vital to the world's survival, and yet rarely if ever discussed and in fact mostly ignored. Without any irony, I call it the 'cow in the room'.

And it's this:

it's a scientific fact that animal agriculture overall is responsible for a staggering 87% of greenhouse gas emissions. So eating animals is one of the leading causes of climate change. Going vegan can save us all.

Why is that? Well two main reasons. Firstly I naturally emit methane. There are at least a billion cows like me being farmed right now, that's a lot of methane.

Secondly, meat producers are forcing us to over-graze and destroy plant life, they're removing vegetation such as trees that would sequester carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.

In fact if grazing lands were restored to forests, they could suck up the CO₂ from all our fossil fuel emissions. Existing grazing lands could also be used to grow crops for you humans to eat, rather than to be inefficiently turned into meat.

And it isn't just about us cows, all animal agriculture contributes to climate change and ill-health in humans. I know you care about obesity in children, but pigs are still being pumped full of hormones and chemicals that make humans as fat as them.

Encouraging veganism will reduce damage to our climate, and our health, in one simple stroke. And are we not bound to treat all God's creatures with respect?

I know the pressures the meat industry can exert on politicians, and I know their arguments, which are dishonest, corrupt and often crazy. Answering to a higher authority, you are free to speak out on serious issues, as you do already.

I ask you then at COP26 to ask questions of politicians about the effects of Animal Agriculture. To force them to be bold and break out of their box.

End the killing and burning machine, reset the planet's food systems and leave a legacy for our descendants, not a wasteland.

On behalf of all animals, I'll be at COP26, in fact you won't be able to miss me.

Let's start a movement together.

Yours faithfully,

Vega,

**Cow and Climate Healer
thecowintheroom.org**