

Pope on climate change

[May 12, 2015](#)

Dear Editor,

I was sorry to see a climate change denying letter from John McLean, who self-identifies as an IPCC expert reviewer. His self-appointed title makes it sound as if he is part of the IPCC review process, but he is not part of the IPCC, not a scientist, and not an expert reviewer. McLean endorsed an [article by Tom Harris](#) who self-identified as executive director of the International Climate Science Coalition. Harris is not a scientist and his organization doesn't do science. Instead he specializes in public relations and communicating misinformation about climate science on behalf of the fossil fuel interests that fund him.

McLean wants the Pope to stop ignoring climate scientists whom McLean compares to biblical false prophets who fool people. From my position, as a Bible instructor, I'm amused at how McLean misuses the idea of false prophets to counsel the Pope!

Biblical false prophets didn't just make untrue predictions about the future. They specifically said things to encourage people to be complacent, to encourage people to maintain the status quo and ignore warnings. False prophets down-played external threats, and advised against ethical behavior and the creation of an equitable, honorable, and holy society.

I'm sorry to say McLean is on the wrong side of science, the wrong side of Bible and the wrong side of history.

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