

<b>Chapter 1 — The Author’s Apology .....</b>	<b>1</b>
Parables and Scripture .....	1
The Parable of the Home-Made Wine .....	2
Through a Glass Darkly.....	3
Goals.....	5
Goal #1 — Determine What Is Going On.....	5
Goal #2 — A New Theology .....	5
Goal #3 — Response .....	6
Energy and Life.....	6
Fossil Fuels .....	7
The 300-Year Party.....	8
An Age of Limits .....	12
The New City of God .....	13
A Personal Journey.....	13
1. Dead Asleep .....	14
2. Awareness of One Fundamental Problem.....	15
3. Awareness of Many Problems .....	17
4. Interconnections Between Many Problems .....	18
5. All Aspects of Life .....	21
“Aha!” Moments .....	23
1. Peak Oil .....	23
2. Predicaments, Not Problems .....	23
3. Augustine’s <i>City of God</i> .....	24
4. Light Bulbs.....	24
5. The I-10 Freeway.....	25
2019: The Year of Anger and Reality.....	25
The Greta Thunberg Meme .....	26
Reality .....	30
The Mainstream Press .....	31
Throwing Caution to the Winds.....	32
The Death of God .....	33
Faith and Belief .....	34
Realistic Hope.....	35
Book Structure .....	37
Additional Information.....	39
<b>Chapter 2 — The City of Man.....</b>	<b>41</b>
The Parable of the Foolish Engineer .....	42
Cities of Men — City of God.....	42
Decline and Collapse .....	44
The Limits .....	48
Resources.....	48
Climate Change .....	49

Environmental Limits .....	49
Biosphere .....	49
Economics .....	51
Population .....	51
Energy Returned on Energy Invested (ERoEI) .....	53
The Church of Progress .....	55
A Secular City of God.....	56
Good Old Days.....	57
An Opportunity for the Church .....	58
Membership Decline.....	59
Relevance .....	60
Young People .....	62
The Church’s ‘Kodak Moment’ .....	64
Sister, Mother Earth.....	65
Mere Christianity .....	69
Realistic Hope .....	71
<b>Chapter 3 — Hubris and Nemesis .....</b>	<b>73</b>
The Parable of the Foolish Turkey .....	73
Hubris .....	74
Science / Technology .....	74
Two Cultures .....	75
Experts .....	77
Enter Leonardo da Vinci: 1490.....	79
Enter Galileo Galilei: 1609.....	82
Enter Thomas Newcomen: 1712.....	83
Enter Charles Darwin: 1859 .....	87
Evolution .....	87
The Great Chain of Being .....	88
The Church’s Reaction .....	89
Enter “Colonel” Drake: 1859.....	91
Enter Svante Arrhenius: 1895 .....	92
Enter M. King Hubbert: 1956 .....	93
Nemesis.....	97
<b>Chapter 4 — Truth and Consequences .....</b>	<b>99</b>
The Parable of the Young Man’s Wallet .....	100
Pilate’s Question .....	100
The Weatherman Effect.....	103
The Archdruid.....	103
No Brighter Future .....	104
Spiritual and Practical Thinking.....	106
Collapse Now, and Avoid the Rush .....	107
Systems Thinking.....	108

Feedback Loops.....	110
Black Swan Events / Unknown Unknowns.....	112
Tipping Points.....	115
Jevons Paradox.....	117
Root Causes.....	117
The Tragedy of the Commons / Externalities .....	119
NORM in North Dakota.....	120
APEC Blue.....	120
The Cloud .....	121
Predictions.....	122
Peak Oil .....	122
The Missing Collapse.....	123
Timing.....	124
Experts and Generalists .....	124
Climate Scientists.....	126
Absence of Bad News.....	127
Human Response .....	127
Denial .....	128
Types of Denial.....	129
Practicality and Personality.....	131
Consensus Science .....	132
Non-Deniers Denial.....	133
Responding to Denial .....	133
Facts and Figures.....	134
Humor .....	136
Changing Attitudes.....	137
The Prophets .....	139
<b>Chapter 5 — Predicaments and Responses.....</b>	<b>147</b>
The Parable of the Green Car.....	148
The Secular Quandary.....	148
Responses.....	150
Just the Facts.....	151
Light Tight Oil .....	152
Energy Companies .....	156
Investors.....	157
A Windy and Sunny Future .....	158
Solar Power .....	159
Wind Power.....	160
Energy Storage.....	160
Biomass .....	161
Alternative Energy Realities.....	162
Nuclear Power .....	163
Nuclear Power (Fission) .....	163

Small Modular Reactors.....	165
Nuclear Power (Fusion).....	165
Other Energy Sources.....	166
Anaesthetics from Windmills.....	166
Climate Change .....	169
Greenhouse Gas Trends.....	171
CO <sub>2</sub> Removal .....	174
Biosphere Loss.....	175
Finance/Economics .....	175
Growth .....	176
Inflation / Deflation.....	178
Debt.....	179
Income Disparity .....	181
Project Management Realities.....	182
Population .....	185
<b>Chapter 6 — Theology .....</b>	<b>187</b>
The Parable of the Blind Golfers .....	188
“Where Is God In All This?” .....	188
The Need for Theology.....	189
Integrity.....	190
Freedom and Responsibility.....	192
Remembrance of Things Past.....	192
Elements of Theology.....	194
Biblical .....	194
Historical .....	194
Dogmatic.....	194
Practical.....	195
Semper Reformanda .....	195
Augustine of Hippo.....	197
De Mendacio (On Lying).....	198
Confessions .....	203
City of God .....	203
Benedict of Nursia.....	204
Martin Luther .....	205
John Wesley .....	205
The Hebrew Bible.....	206
Noah’s Ark.....	206
Revelation .....	208
Elements of an Age of Limits Theology.....	209
1. Understand and Tell the Truth.....	209
2. Accept and Adapt.....	210
3. Live within the Biosphere.....	211

**Chapter 7 — The Church’s Response..... 215**

The Parable of the Long Spoons ..... 215

The Happy Chapter ..... 216

Old-Fashioned Language..... 219

    Hell ..... 220

    Repentance ..... 220

    Mercy ..... 221

    Salvation..... 221

Leaving the Church of Progress..... 221

Top-Down / Bottom-Up ..... 222

The Church ..... 223

    Current Responses ..... 223

    Multi-Discipline Thinking ..... 225

    Academy ..... 226

    From the Pulpit ..... 226

    Story-Telling ..... 227

Mission ..... 228

    Education ..... 229

    Community..... 229

    Support..... 230

    Simple Living ..... 230

Three Roads..... 230

The First Road — Public Policy..... 230

    Bold Action ..... 231

    Sensible and Realistic..... 231

    Refugees and Migrants ..... 232

The Second Road — Personal Lifestyle ..... 233

The Third Road — Acceptance ..... 236

    Stoicism ..... 236

    Fatalism ..... 237

    Hopium..... 238

    The Great Simplification ..... 238

Religious Life ..... 238

    Spirituality ..... 238

    Usury ..... 239

    Monastic Life..... 240

    Puritanism ..... 241

Church Leadership..... 243

Parish Life ..... 243

Ora et Labora..... 245

The End Game: Realistic Hope ..... 247

    Simplification ..... 248

Closing Collect ..... 250

<b>Further Reading .....</b>	<b>251</b>
Age of Limits — 1 .....	252
The Benedict Option .....	252
Caring for Creation .....	254
Cassandra’s Legacy.....	255
Climate Church, Climate World.....	256
Deep Adaptation .....	256
The Great Emergence.....	257
Entropy: Into the Greenhouse World .....	260
The Glass Bead Game.....	261
Hot Earth Dreams.....	262
IPCC Reports.....	263
Ladder of Awareness.....	266
Laudato Sí.....	269
Style of Language .....	270
Morality.....	270
Population .....	271
The Good Old Days .....	272
New Climate for Theology.....	273
Operation Noah.....	274
Peak Prosperity .....	274
The Three ‘E’s.....	275
Crash Course .....	275
Pilgrim’s Progress .....	277
Humility.....	277
Hypocrisy.....	278
Personal Response.....	279
Post Carbon Institute .....	280
Resource Insights .....	281
The Rise of Christianity.....	283
Six Degrees .....	284
Star’s Reach .....	286
Sub-Reddit ‘Collapse’ .....	286
The Uninhabitable Earth .....	287
Works Cited.....	291
<b>Acronyms and Abbreviations .....</b>	<b>295</b>
<b>Index.....</b>	<b>296</b>