

Wednesday, September 5



Message From Reclaiming Earth Committee

In an earlier book titled *Care for Creation* co-authored by Ilia Delio, OSF is written an observation that is what we now refer to as integral ecology: “The emergence of sustainability marks a conceptual breakthrough for human society because it reconnects economic well-being with the ecosystems that compose our planetary oikos (an ancient Greek word that means , in English, the prefix eco- for ecology, economics. It refers to three related but distinct concepts: family, family’s property and house). A slow realization across the globe is developing. The oikos depends upon our care, upon humans practicing restraint, upon humans translating their care for creation.

“Human society is one subset of the environment and the economy is a subset of that. An explanation of this dynamic is that humans gather resources from the environment through agriculture, mining and so forth.

“Through the labor of society, we feed the economy, which produces goods we like but also produces waste. Resources flow from the environment to and through society and into the economy where waste flows back through society (whether we want it or not) and then back to the environment where it frequently causes lack of restoration.

“Everything we use comes from somewhere and everything we throw away goes somewhere else.”

Ilia Delio, OSF, *Care for Creation*
(Pages 31-33)

As our realization and deepening of science, spirituality, ethics and morality that we call integral ecology continues to develop, we also live in a time of hope for our planet and ourselves. We are reminded in Romans 8:21-22 that: “The creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the children of God.”

We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now. Isn’t that scripture hope filled? Pray with it and see if you agree.

