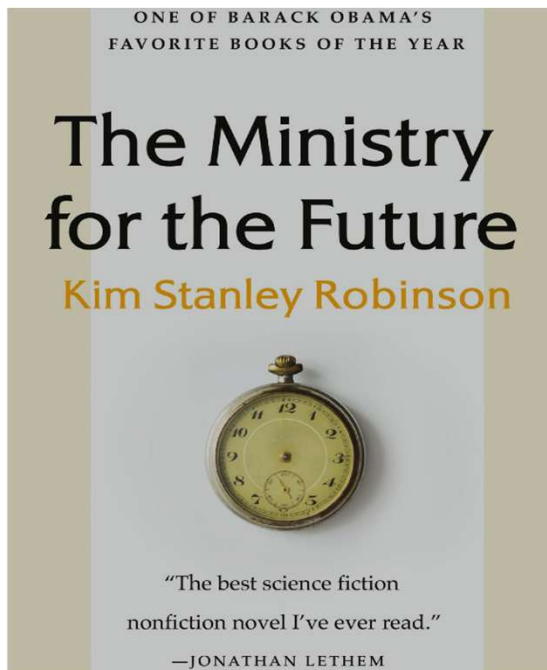




Christian Response to Global Warming

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Based on the book *Ministry for the Future* by Kim Stanley Robinson
 Review by Adam Woffinden (Redwood City, California)

“MfTF” begins in 2025, when a cataclysmic heat wave kills millions in India and kicks off a global series of social, economic and political reforms.

What follows is a 25-year voyage through the near future, gaming out how humanity might react to all the various elements of the climate crisis.

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The book really is a tour-de-force showing every aspect of how climate change is affecting our biosphere: habitat loss, sea level rise, perma-frost thawing, wet-bulb temperatures, etc., and the technological and policy tools at our disposal to address them. Here are just a selection of different topics explored:

Releasing aerosols in the stratosphere to reflect sunlight and ease global temperatures

Tying the use of quantitative easing to carbon emissions to spur climate investment, offering a “Global Carbon Reward”

Repurposing oil-drilling well technology to slow the descent of Antarctic glacier-ice into the sea

3

Granting future generations and non-humans legal standing, for example “Should Trees Have Standing”

Revamping the concept of universal passports/travel permits or “Nansen Passports”, as was done following World War I.

Whenever humanity in MfTF comes to a policy fork in the road, MfTF humanity takes the wiser path without serious resistance.

While the shocking events of a tragedy can galvanize social will, this effect dissipates rather quickly in the collective consciousness.

The book is dedicated to Frederic Jameson, Robinson’s doctoral supervisor, who wrote “It is easier to imagine the end of the world than to imagine the end of capitalism”, and that is the feeling you are left with upon completing the book.

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