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iChing.Wiki NEWS

Back in Montana

One of the founders of a Climate Change Action Group, The first discussion is how to think about a complex subject. Is it science? How sure is the science? How the science is used and misused in the news cycle and political debates.

I am leaving the *science* as *observation* in this month and update them to help think about climate change, how one may act in the face of uncertainty and complexity.

As we have discussed before - the I Ching, even when viewed from one of the many outlooks we discussed - tapping what your sub-conscious already knows, carefully and subtly putting your ego aside, you can find you way to calmly take action on Climate Change.

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The purpose of building iChing.Wiki is to encourage people to live a spiritual life. While the I Ching gives practical advice, it can aid you on your spiritual path.

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Yang: *Hot, hot, hot, we worry.
Heaven's sun and works of men?
Oh the power of Yin will come.
The Big question: how and when.*

Jim Olsen




Science as Observation

As we see, hear, smell, feel, and taste the world, we try to make sense of it, contemplating the patterns and cycles of it. Seeing the sun rise and fall, the seasons repeat from year to year, we create a mental model of these patterns, using them to make sense of what we observe. This is science.

When we express these patterns in mathematics, even going so far as to claim cause and effect, it is still science - a science that is remains rooted in observation.

When we use tools to enhance our powers of observation, to observe the small and far away, to measure the spectrum of the light we see, to detect radio waves in the ether, it is still science, science rooted in observation.

 Science is taking what we observe, making a mental model that fits the patterns of we observe, and using that mental model to predict what we will observe in the future. When we hear about climate change science, it is generally models, fancy or simple, software and math, taking data we observed, trying to understand the patterns, to aide our never ending quest to predict how the future might unfold.





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Ways of Thinking About the World

Ancient Philosophers of the Land of the West observed the things of nature, and thought, "There must be a smallest thing," and they called it Atom. It was the Atom of Things. "A complicated thing is made up of simpler things, so that is how we shall describe the world we see."

But before the smallest thing, before the thought called Atom, ancient Sages in the Land of the East saw nature and wondered at the Way things changed: the sun rises and falls - changing, but remains the same thing; the moon shines in the night - changing, but stays the same. "There must be a pattern," The Changing of Things. "Everything changes according to its nature, so that is how we shall describe the world we see."

These Philosophers and Sages created their Schools of Thought, and their progeny continued thinking these Thoughts through the ages.

In the Land of the East, The Thinkers of Change glimpsed the mysterious Agents of Nature. They saw the changing patterns creating harmony - dancing in a hidden synchrony. They created images to see what they said, lines, broken and unbroken, dark and light, penetrating and receptive. They saw Synchronicity.

They called this The Law of Change.

In the Land of the West, The Creators of Atoms created symbols and rules; they called it Mathematics. They used these symbols and rules to describe those simpler things that made up the complicated thing.

But Atoms were not enough. The Thinkers of Atoms saw that their Atoms moved, fell, bounced, and slid; they called this Energy. Ah, but then they felt urgency to master this Energy, doing much work to describe it, describe it precisely with the symbols they made, intricately arranging them to see what they said.

They were rewarded: it gave them the power to manipulate the Atoms of Things. It made them the Makers of Machines; And they made Machines of Wonder.

But Nature whispered of mysteries to the Makers of Machines. This mystery disturbed them; they felt an urgency to master it. So they did much work, inventing new symbols and arrangements.

Again they were rewarded. It gave them the power to glimpse the mysteries of Nature, mysteries which no longer needed to be whispered.

When they looked upon this, they saw The Law of Change.



So, what about the news we see about Climate Change, claims and counterclaims, the summaries of science. The very complexity of the atmosphere, a thin layer on a large ball, crowded with humans – who probably have an impact. Zhuangzi, walking along the river bank with untroubled ease, might have a good part of the answer – his book often by the same name or *Wandering on the Way* is considered a founding document of Daoism. See <https://www.iching.wiki/guides-histories-and-philosophies>.