



Pastor's Update

Sunday, March 31, 2024

WHAT SCRIPTURES SAY ABOUT "THE LAST THINGS" (ESCHATOLOGY)

INTRODUCTION: The word eschatology is derived from two Greek terms: *eschatos*, "last" and *logos* "study." Eschatology then is the "study of the last things" or the end of the world.

I. DEATH

Death is the end of life as it is in this world. At death the bodies of humans return to the dust and see corruption; but their souls immediately return to God who gave them (Ge. 3:19; Acts 13:36; Eccl. 12:7; 3:21). The souls of Believers go immediately to the Lord waiting for the full redemption of their bodies (Lk. 23:43; 2 Cor. 5:1; 6:1-10; Philip. 1:23; Heb. 12:23), and the souls of unbelievers are cast into hell, where they remain for the Day of Judgment (Jude 6, 7; 1 Pet. 3:19; 2 Pet. 2:9; Lk. 16:23, 24).

II. RESURRECTION

When Jesus Christ returns, He will raise all dead bodies and unite them with their souls (Jn. 5:28-30; Acts 24:15). The resurrection bodies of Believers will be like that of Christ's resurrection body (1 Cor. 15:35-44; Philip. 3:17-21). The resurrection bodies of Unbelievers will be raised to dishonor and death (Eccl. 12:2; Jn. 5:28-29).

III. JUDGMENT

Believers who are alive at the *Parousia* of Christ, will be changed and united with those who have died (1 Tess. 4:13-17). On the Day God appointed in which He will judge the world in righteousness by Jesus Christ, everyone will face the tribunal of Christ, that each may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad (Heb. 9:27; Acts 17:31; Jn. 5:22, 27; 2 Cor. 5:10; Matt. 25:31-46; Eccl. 12:14; Matt. 12:36; Rom. 14:10, 12). Believers will not be condemned, but their works will be assessed and rewarded; and they will worship and serve the Lord forever (Rom. 8:1; 1 Cor. 3:10-15; Rev. 7:9-17). Unbelievers will be cast into everlasting torments, and punished with everlasting destruction, from the presence of the Lord, and from His power (Matt. 25:46; Mk. 9:48; 2 Thess. 1:7-10; Rev. 20:11-15).

IV. NEW HEAVEN AND EARTH

Christ's return will bring the new Heaven and the new Earth. Sin and all its effects will be banished forever (Rom. 8:18-21); Satan and all his helpers will be destroyed (Matt. 25:41; Rev. 20:10); purity, peace, love and joy will prevail unabated (**2 Pet. 3:11-13**; Rev. 22:1-5), and God will reign forever, unchallenged (1 Cor. 15:21-28; Rev. 19:1-6).

V. CONCLUSION

May the Triune God give us grace that we may say with those who are *companion in the tribulation and kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ...Even so, come, Lord Jesus* (Rev. 22:20)!

By God's Grace and for His glory, Pr. Francis