

Mound Free U

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## **A Study of the Millennium: Intro & Essential Eschatology**

### **Why study eschatology & the millennium?**

The EFCA Statement of Faith in *Article 9* was recently changed:

“We believe in the personal, bodily, and glorious {premillennial} return of our Lord Jesus Christ. The coming of Christ, at a time known only to God, demands constant expectancy and, as our blessed hope, motivates the believer to godly living, sacrificial service and energetic mission.”

### **Theological Triage**

<https://albertmohler.com/2005/07/12/a-call-for-theological-triage-and-christian-maturity/>

### **Where we are going this fall:**

8-Sep	1	Introduction & Essential Eschatology
15-Sep	2	Historical views on the Millennium
22-Sep	3	Historical views on the Millennium
		How we understand Scripture: Significance for
29-Sep	4	millennial views
6-Oct	5	Counseling with the future in mind
13-Oct	6	Postmillennialism
20-Oct	7	Postmillennialism
27-Oct	8	Postmillennialism
3-Nov	9	Amillennialism
10-Nov	10	Amillennialism
17-Nov	11	Amillennialism
24-Nov	12	Premillennialism
1-Dec	13	Premillennialism
8-Dec	14	Premillennialism
15-Dec	15	EFCA Statement of Faith & the Millennium

### **Essential Eschatology**

#### **I      Salvation past, present & future (1 Cor 15:1-2)**

## **II Essential convictions about the future**

### *Article 10: Response and Eternal Destiny*

“We believe that God commands everyone everywhere to believe the gospel by turning to Him in repentance and receiving the Lord Jesus Christ. We believe that God will raise the dead bodily and judge the world, assigning the unbeliever to condemnation and eternal conscious punishment and the believer to eternal blessedness and joy with the Lord in the new heaven and the new earth, to the praise of His glorious grace. Amen.”

1 Future visible & bodily **return of Jesus Christ**

2 Future (bodily) **Resurrection**

3 Future **Judgment**

4 **Eternal condition & destination:**      life      in the new heavens & new earth  
    OR      death      in the lake of fire

### ***I) Jesus Christ will return***

- Promised and expected
  - Foretold & promised by Jesus himself (Mt 24:30-31; 25:31)
  - Promised by angels (Acts 1:11)
  - NT writers affirmed his coming return (1 Thess 4:15-17; 1 Peter 1:7, 13; 4:13; 5:4; James 5:7-8; 1 John 2:18; 3:2)
- What is the purpose of his return?      To bring salvation!!! (Heb 9:28)
- Timing of the return of Christ:
  - Only God knows the precise time and day (Mt 24:36, 42)
  - *General* signs and forerunners (Mt 24; Mk 13; Lk 21)
    - Preaching of the gospel to every nation (Mt 24:14, 33-34)
    - Rebellion & man of lawlessness is revealed (2 Thess 2:3)
- How then shall we live (impact on Christians)?
  - 1) Constant expectancy (vigilance)
 

Mt 24:42, 44; Lk 12:40; 1 Thess 5:4, 6; Rom 13:11-14; 2 Peter 3:10-12; Rev 3:3
  - 2) Blessed Hope
    - See & be with Christ (Titus 2:13; Php 3:20; 1 John 3:2)
    - Coming righteousness (Gal 5:5)
    - Coming day of redemption (Eph 4:30)
    - Sanctification completed (Php 1:6, 20; 2:16; 1 Thess 5:23-24)
    - Glory & joy (Col 3:4; 1 Thess 2:19; 2 Thess 1:9-10)
    - Blameless in holiness (1 Thess 3:13; 5:23-24)
    - Patient, eager waiting (Rom 8:22-24; 1 Cor 1:7; James 5:8; 1 Cor 16:22)
  - 3) Motivation to God-glorifying living
    - Strive to be servants who actively love others (Mt 24:45-51)
    - Strive to be good and faithful servants (Mt 25:14-30)

## ***II) Future (bodily) Resurrection***

- How: Dead come to life (Daniel 12:2; John 5:28-29)
- Who: Every human being, both just & unjust (Acts 24:15)
- What is the nature of the resurrected body:
  - Physical (2 Cor 5:1-10; Job 19:25-27)
  - Glorified (Php 3:20-21)
  - Eternal, powerful, spiritual, heavenly-image-bearer (1 Cor 15:35-50)

## ***III) Future Judgment***

- Fore-planned: Fixed 1) Court date, 2) Judge appointed, 3) Standard (Acts 17:30-31)
- Separates the sheep from the goats (Mt 25:31-46)
- Each person judged according to one's works (2 Cor 5:10; Rev 20:12-13; Mt 16:27)
- Varied sentencing (Mt 10:15; 11:22-24) and reward (2 Cor 5:10; 1 Cor 3:10-15)
- The judgment of God separates all people towards either of two destinations...  
Mt 7:13-14; 25:32, 46; Rev 20:15; 21:27

## ***IV) Eternal condition & destination***

1. Eternal Punishment in the Lake of Fire
  - Where? Hell (Mt 23:33)
  - Alienation: apart from God in 'outer darkness'  
(Mt 8:12; 13:42, 50; 22:13; 25:30; 2 Pet 2:17; Jude 13; 2 Thess 1:9)
  - Wrath, condemnation, & death:
    - Eternal & conscious (Mt 25:41, 46)
    - Eternal fire, weeping & gnashing of teeth  
(Mk 9:43, 48; Mt 18:8; Jude 7; Rev 14:9-11; 21:8)
    - Eternal Corruption (Rev 21:8)
2. Eternal Life in the New Heavens & New Earth
  - Where? New Heavens & New Earth (Rev 21:1-5; 2 Pet 3:13; Rom 8:21-23)
  - Reconciliation: dwell with God in 'light' (Rev 21:3; Mt 13:43; Rev 21:23; 22:5)
  - Peace, joyful delight, blessedness & eternal life (Rev 19:7; Mt 22:2; 25:1-13; Rev 22:1-5)