The Doctrine of the Future – Part 2
Theology: Core Doctrines Part 2

The Doctrine of the Future – Part 2

Introduction to the Doctrine of the Future: *For What Do We Hope?*

- For What Do We Hope **Personally**? (Part 1)
  - Concerning **Death**
  - Concerning **Heaven**
  - Concerning **Hell**

- For What Do We Hope **Generally**? (Part 2)
  - Concerning the **Second Coming of Christ**
  - Concerning the **Millennium**
  - Concerning the **Final Judgment**

Introduction to Interpretive Views of Prophetic Literature

- **Preterist Approach:** All events happened before 70AD without reference to future events

- **Historicist Approach:** All events cover a panorama of church history

- **Futurist Approach:** All events happen in the future

- **Idealist Approach:** All events are repeated symbolically throughout church history

Our Hope Concerning the Second Coming of Christ

- The Second Coming: **What is it?**
  - **Arrival** – *Parousia* (Mt. 24:3; 1 Thess. 2:19; 3:13; 4:15; 5:23; 2 Thess. 2:1; 8; James 5:7-8; 2 Pet. 3:4; 1 Jn. 2:28)

  - **Appearing** – *Epiphaneia* (2 Tim. 1:20; 2 Thess. 2:8; 1 Tim. 6:14; 2 Tim. 4:1;8; Tit. 2:13)

  - **The Day of the Lord/Christ/Judgment/Salvation** (Rom. 13:12; 1 Cor. 3:13; Heb. 10:25; Phil. 1:6; 10; 2:16: 1 Thess. 5:2; 2 Thess. 2:2; 2 Pet. 3:12)

  - **Coming** – *Erchomai* (Mt. 24:30; Mk. 13:26; Lk. 21:27)

- **Revealed** (Lk. 17:30).

- **Descend** (1 Thess. 4:16).

- The Second Coming: **What Will It Be Like?**

  - It Will Be **Visible** (Mt. 24:27; Rev. 1:7; 2 Thess. 2:2)

  - It Will Be **Imminent** (Mt. 24:42; 25:13)

  - It Will Be **Signified** (1 Thess. 5:1-5)

    - By the **Preaching of the Gospel to All Nations** (Mk. 13:10; Mt. 24:14)

    - By the **Great Tribulation and Apostasy** (Mk. 13:7-8; Mt. 24:15-22; Lk. 21:20-24)

    - By the **Coming of the Antichrist** (2 Thess. 2:1-10; 1 Jn. 2:18; Rev. 13)

  - It Will Be **Final** (Rev. 19:11-16)

Our Hope Concerning the Millennium:

- **Amillennialism:** The millennium figuratively refers to the present church age, in which Christ reigns with His saints in heaven. After this age, He will come again in final judgment.
    - **"Thousand Years":** Figurative, not literal. Present, not future.
    - **"Binding of Satan":** Occurred in Jesus' ministry, limiting his influence in the church age.
    - **"Reigning with Christ":** A non-bodily reign in heaven with Christ and deceased Christians.
    - **"Were Ended":** Upon Christ's return when all end times events will happen at once.
- **Postmillennialism:** The millennium figuratively refers to a future optimistic golden age, in which Christian revival, peace, and righteousness. After this age, He will come again in final judgment.
    - **"Thousand Years":** Figurative, not literal. Future, not present.
    - **"Binding of Satan":** Society will more and more function according to God's standards.
    - **"Reigning with Christ":** An era on earth with many Christians influencing society.
    - **"Were Ended":** Upon Christ's return when all end times events will happen at once.

- **Historic (or Classic) Premillennialism:** The millennium literally refers to an era of Christ physically reigning on earth that is preceded first by the tribulation and then Christ's second coming. After this age, He will come again in final judgment.

    - **"Thousand Years":** Literal, not figurative. Future, not present.

    - **"Binding of Satan":** Satan will have no influence on earth, bound in bottomless pit.

    - **"Reigning with Christ":** Living believers and resurrected deceased believers will enjoy a bodily reign with Christ in perfect peace.

    - **"Were Ended":** Satan will be loosed and foment rebellion before being decisively defeated.

- **Dispensational (or Pretribulational) Premillennialism:** The millennium literally refers to an era of Christ physically reigning on earth that is preceded first by the rapture, then the tribulation, and finally Christ's second coming. After this age, He will come again in final judgment.

    - **"Thousand Years":** Literal, not figurative. Future, not present.

    - **"Binding of Satan":** Satan will have no influence on earth, bound in bottomless pit.

    - **"Reigning with Christ":** Living believers and resurrected deceased believers will enjoy a bodily reign with Christ in perfect peace.

    - **"Were Ended":** Satan will be loosed and foment rebellion before being decisively

Our Hope Concerning the Final Judgment:

- **How Many Judgments?**
  - Some View **Several**
    - Judgment of **the Nations before Millennium** (Mt. 25:31-46)
    - Judgment of **Believers or Bema Judgment** (2 Cor. 5:10)
    - Judgment of **Unbelievers or Great White Throne Judgment** (Rev. 20:11-15).
  - Some View **One**
- **Who Will Judge?**
  - **Jesus Christ** (2 Tim. 4:1; Acts 10:42; John 5:26-27).
  - **Possibly Assisted by Believers** (1 Cor. 6:2-6; Rev. 20:4; Mt. 19:28)
- **Who Will Be Judged?**
  - **Unbelievers** (Rev. 20:12; Rom. 2:5-7).
  - **Believers** (Rom. 14:10,12; 2 Cor. 5:10; Rom. 2:6-11; Rev. 20:12, 15).
  - **Angels** (2 Peter 2:4; Jude 6; 1 Cor. 6:3).