

# **Your Kingdom Come: The Doctrine of Eschatology**

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## **Journal Questions**

LESSON  
ONE

THE GOAL OF CREATION



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## Journal Questions

1. How are you called to fulfill the cultural mandate? In what ways can you exercise the kingly and priestly role of working and taking care of the things over which God given us authority?
2. Genesis 3:15 tells us that, since the Fall, the human race has been divided between those who serve God's purposes and those who rebel against him. How should we as Christians relate to those who rebel against God's will?
3. Isaiah's prophecy in Isaiah 2:2-4 created a vivid picture of the eschaton. Which element of his prophecy are you most eagerly anticipating? Explain your answer.
4. Jesus didn't fulfill all of the expectations for the last days in his first advent, but he will complete his work when he returns in glory. How does this fact encourage the ministry of the church in the world today?
5. Jesus taught that the timing of his return hasn't been revealed to anyone. With this in mind, how should we evaluate the practice of searching the Bible for clues as to the date of the second coming?
6. How would you respond to someone who claims that God doesn't keep his promises in Scripture?
7. How would you explain "inaugurated eschatology" to a new believer?
8. What does the Great Commission require of churches today? What are some practical ways you can encourage those in your community to "make disciples of all nations?"
9. What is the most significant thing you learned in this lesson?

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## Journal Questions

LESSON  
TWO

THE LIVING AND THE  
DEAD



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## Journal Questions

1. Can you recall the time when you were spiritually “reborn”? What were the circumstances or events that led you to spiritual life?
2. How would you respond to someone who says that it’s unjust for God to punish all humanity for Adam’s sin?
3. Because the unregenerate are not motivated by love for God, even their good deeds do not earn God’s favor. How does this affect your perspective on good works? What role do you think good works play in the Christian life?
4. The unregenerate heart is hostile to God. What various approaches have you used to try to reach those who are at enmity with God?
5. How do we as Christians experience eternal life in the present?
6. We will not be completely free from sin while we live in our mortal bodies. How does this truth cause you to rely on God’s strength in your struggle against sin?
7. If we know that our souls go to be with God after we die, why is the physical death of a believer still so difficult for us to accept? How can we comfort others who are grieving the loss of a believing loved one?
8. We can have hope that we will enjoy the blessings of the intermediate state after we die. How might the hope for these future blessings encourage you today?
9. Many people dislike the doctrine of hell and eternal torment. How might you demonstrate the justice of hell to those who object to this biblical teaching? Do you think you should talk about hell in evangelistic conversations? Why or why not?
10. The Bible teaches that we will be resurrected with eternal, glorified and physical bodies. What does this doctrine teach us about the value of our physical bodies?
11. What is the most significant thing you learned in this lesson?

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## Journal Questions

LESSON  
THREE

THE COMING OF THE  
KING



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## Journal Questions

1. How much do the people in your Christian community understand about the kingdom of God? How might this affect your ministry to them?
2. God's covenant with Abraham can seem very removed from modern-day Christians. What are some ways that the Abrahamic covenant is still relevant today?
3. When you contemplate the future earthly reign of Christ, what do you look forward to the most? Why?
4. The New Testament teaches that when Jesus returns, he'll appear triumphantly "with power and great glory." How does our hope in a future triumphant return of Christ reassure us in our daily struggles and trials?
5. How is it possible that Jesus didn't know the date of his return? Why do you think God made this a divine mystery, even for Jesus?
6. The circumstances that Scripture says will precede Christ's return create legitimate expectations for how the future may unfold. How do these precursors to the second coming warn and encourage you as you prepare for Christ's arrival?
7. The lesson describes four evangelical interpretive strategies (preterism, futurism, historicism, idealism). How does each strategy help us understand various aspects of Scripture?
8. Do you consider yourself to be a premillennialist, postmillennialist or amillennialist? Why? What passages in Scripture can you cite to support your position?
9. Why is it important to acknowledge, along with Justin Martyr, that "many who belong to the pure and pious faith, and are true Christians" do not share our same views about the timing and details of the millennium?
10. What is the most significant thing you learned in this lesson?

# Your Kingdom Come: The Doctrine of Eschatology

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## Journal Questions

LESSON  
FOUR

THE END OF THE AGE



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## Journal Questions

1. Why is it important to affirm the physical resurrection of the body?
2. Scripture teaches that God has complete authority over both heaven and hell. How does this challenge the popular notion that hell is controlled by Satan?
3. What are some common misperceptions about hell? Respond to at least three of these misperceptions using biblical references to support your answers.
4. What do the Bible's descriptions of God's heavenly throne room tell us about God's character?
5. Read Romans 8:19-23. What do you think Paul meant when he said that creation is "groaning" and that believers "groan inwardly"? What kinds of things cause us to groan as we "wait eagerly for ... the redemption of our bodies"?
6. Many Christians look forward to going to heaven, but Scripture tells us that God has something even better for us in the new heavens and new earth. How might this change the way you talk about the future God has planned for humanity?
7. Why has God chosen to restore our bodies to our souls in the general resurrection rather than leaving us as disembodied spirits?
8. Is the knowledge that Jesus will be your judge a comforting thought to you or a fearful one? Why?
9. James 3:1 says that teachers within the church will be judged even more strictly than other believers. How does this challenge you in your own ministries of preaching and teaching?
10. The apostle Paul taught that those who have never heard the gospel will still be judged and condemned at the final judgment. How does this urge you to be more faithful in your personal witness and in the corporate witness of your church?
11. The final judgment is intended to punish the wicked and reward the righteous. How do you feel about preaching the forgiveness of sins through Christ to murderers and other criminals? Is there anyone who doesn't deserve to hear the gospel? Explain your answer.
12. What do you look forward to most in the new heavens and new earth?
13. What is the most significant thing you learned in this lesson?