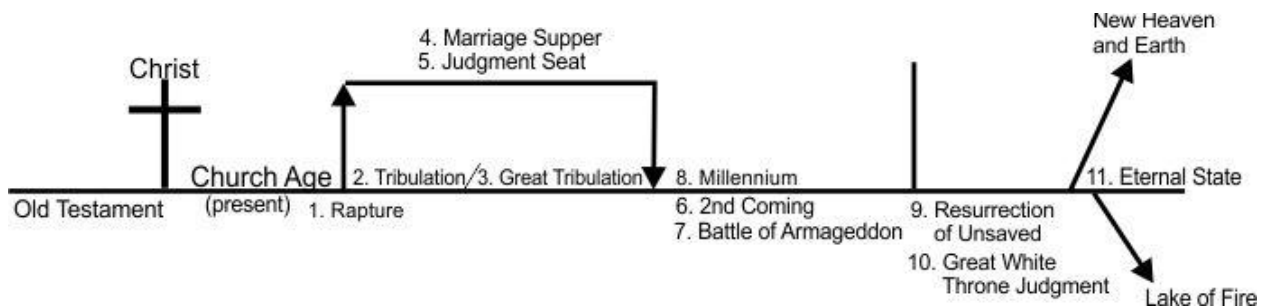


FOUNDATIONS OF FAITH

WEEK 8 - ESCHATOLOGY

DEFINITION OF ESCHATOLOGY:

TIME LINE:



EXPLANATION OF TIME LINE:

1. Rapture - return of Christ for the church.
2. Tribulation - 7 years of Antichrist's rule on earth after the Rapture.
3. Great Tribulation - last 3 1/2 years of Tribulation - God's wrath poured out upon men.
4. Marriage Supper of the Lamb - great feast in heaven after Rapture - Jesus and the Church.
5. Judgment Seat of Christ - judgment of believers for their works - tried by God's fire.
6. Second Coming of Christ - coming of Jesus with the Church to the earth.
7. Battle of Armageddon - Satan, Antichrist and their army verses Jesus Christ - He defeats them, casts Satan into the bottomless pit, and sets up millennial kingdom.
8. Millennium - 1000-year reign of Christ on earth with believers - age of restoration; evil is banished, earth is restored, Jews' promises fulfilled.
9. Resurrection of Unsavved - unbelievers who died and went to Hell before the Second Coming are resurrected for the final judgment.
10. Great White Throne Judgment - final judgment of unsaved - cast into the Lake of Fire with Satan and his demons.
11. Eternal State - final state after last judgment - believers are in the new heaven and earth; unbelievers are in the lake of fire for eternity.

PENTECOSTAL VIEW OF ESCHATOLOGY:

A. INAUGURATED ESCHATOLOGY - the Kingdom of God is "already but not yet" ... it is in a sense already here (in our hearts), but is also future (has not been realized physically yet).

SCRIPTURES:

1. Matt. 13:3-8 (parable of sower) - harvest image given ... kingdom starts from small beginnings and grows into a great harvest in the end.
2. Matt. 13:24-30 (parable of wheat & tares) - in the midst of growth Satan is still active here ... judgment and reward must await the harvest.
3. Matt. 13:31-33 (mustard seed & leaven) - both indicate tremendous growth ... emphasis is on present and future.
4. Luke 10:18 (Jesus saw Satan fall) - something already happened to his power.
5. Luke 11:20 - the Kingdom of God is come upon you - it is here already.
6. Mark 14:25 - the Kingdom of God is not here yet (in its fullness).
7. Matt. 4:17 - the Kingdom of God is imminent - could come at any moment.

B. **PREMILLENNIAL VIEW** - there will be a literal, earthly, physical reign of Christ lasting 1000 years, which will be established by Him at His Second Coming (He is coming before the millennium) ... this is the earliest Christian belief (early church fathers after apostles).

C. **PRETRIBULATION VIEW** - Christ will come for the church (the Rapture) before the Tribulation (in contrast to during or after); the Tribulation will be surpassed in its horrible persecution and judgments; the Church will be out of the Tribulation and in heaven for the Marriage Supper of the Lamb and the judgment Seat of Christ; the Rapture is sudden and quick, and is secret (no one knows when); emphasizes immanency of Christ's return ... "watch" and "hope" for His return ...

1 Thess. 5:6 - be alert ... He is coming!

Rom. 13:11, 12 - wake up ... the hour is near!

1 John 1: 1-3 - have hope of His coming ... live purely!